MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HORSE RACING BOARD

In the Matter of:
Regular Meeting

LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE

FINISH LINE ROOM

4961 KATELLA AVENUE

LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2006 3:13 P.M.

Reported by: Troy A. Ray

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Richard B. Shapiro, Chairperson

John Andreini

William A. Bianco

John C. Harris

Jerry Moss

STAFF

Ingrid Fermin, Executive Director

Roy Minami, Assistant Executive Director

John Reagan, Senior Parimutuel Examiner

ALSO PRESENT

Derry L. Knight
Deputy Attorney General

Joseph Barkett Solano County Fair

Christopher Korby California Authority of Racing Fairs

Corey J. Oakley Sonoma County Fair

Craig Fravel
Del Mar Thoroughbred Club

Drew Couto
Thoroughbred Owners of California

Ed Halpern California Thoroughbred Trainers

Howard L. Zucker Public Trainer

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ALSO PRESENT - continued

Darrell Haire Jockeys Club

Ron Charles Magna Entertainment Corporation

Billy Koch Little Red Feather

Sherwood Chillingworth
Oak Tree Racing Association

Cliff Goodrich

Richard Castro
Pari-Mutuel Employees Guild

Douglas Kempt
Pari-Mutuel Employees Guild

Michael L. Knapp Surfside Race Place at Del Mar

Mike Willman Santa Anita Park

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- 3:13 p.m.
- 3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: If we could have
- 4 everyone sit down we'll open the meeting.
- 5 Ladies and gentlemen, would the meeting please
- 6 come to order. This is a regular meeting of the California
- 7 Horse Racing Board on Thursday, May 25th, at Los Alamitos
- 8 Race Course, 4961 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, California.
- 9 Present today for this, this meeting, we have
- 10 Chairman Richard Shapiro; Commissioner John Andreini;
- 11 Commissioner William Bianco; Commissioner John Harris,
- 12 Commissioner Jerry Moss.
- 13 We're going to adjourn at this time and go into
- 14 Executive Session, and it should be a short session.
- 15 (Thereupon, the Board adjourned to
- 16 convene the Executive Session.)
- 17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: We'll bring the
- 18 meeting back to order, please.
- 19 Before we go into the business part of the meeting
- 20 I'd like to ask everyone, or remind everyone to please state
- 21 your name for the record prior to speaking to the Board, and
- 22 to speak, obviously, clearly so that we can have a good
- 23 record. And thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you. And good
- 25 afternoon.

Okay. We're going to start with the meeting. The

- 2 first is to -- a discussion and action for the Board
- 3 approval of the minutes. Has everybody reviewed the
- 4 minutes? Do they have any comments, corrections? If not,
- 5 I'd entertain a motion to approve the minutes, please.
- It's been seconded. All in favor?
- 7 (Ayes.)
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: They are approved.
- 9 The next matter is the Application to Conduct a
- 10 Race Meeting of the Solano County Fair at Vallejo.
- Jack, you go ahead.
- 12 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 13 Horse Racing Board staff.
- 14 This is the Application to Conduct a Fair Meeting
- 15 for the Solano County Fair. The fair plans to race from
- 16 July 24 -- July 12th to July 24th, 11 days, the same days as
- 17 2005. They'll be racing five days the first week, and six
- 18 days the second week. The first post will be at 12:45, and
- 19 there are no outstanding items, and the staff recommends
- 20 that the Board approve the application.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay, thank you.
- I see a representative is standing there.
- MR. BARKETT: Yes. Joe Barkett, General Manager,
- 24 Solano County Fair, if you have any questions.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you. Do any of the

1 members have any questions they wish to ask? I think I have

- 2 a couple.
- 3 Mr. Barkett, you list all -- first of all, what
- 4 ADW providers carry your signal?
- 5 MR. BARKETT: All, all three.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All -- so UBET, HRTV, and
- 7 TVG?
- MR. BARKETT: Yes.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. And this is not
- 10 necessarily a question just directed to you, but again, I
- 11 see that there are a lot of different entities that is, that
- 12 the signal is sent to. Does anybody in, in your
- 13 organization or through CARF, do they check these out at
- 14 all, do you know?
- 15 MR. BARKETT: I'll do my best to answer your
- 16 question, Mr. Chairman.
- 17 CARF handles, coordinates and manages the
- 18 contracts for out of state simulcasting. I, I'm not sure
- 19 what you mean by check these out.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, in other words, do you
- 21 do any due diligence on who, who it is you're doing business
- 22 with and you're sending your signals to?
- MR. BARKETT: We, we make an effort to determine
- 24 whether or not they're in -- in North America, whether or
- 25 not they're licensed by the jurisdiction in which they

1 operate. For those that, for those that are offshore, we do

- 2 the best we can as far as determining that they are actually
- 3 a licensed entity.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. And when you say you
- 5 do the best you can, what does, what, what do you do? I
- 6 mean, I -- and I'm not picking on anybody, but this has
- 7 consistently troubled me, and it's not, again, just your
- 8 application. But I see one here, Stevenson and Associates,
- 9 okay, and, and I'm questioning what is Stevenson and
- 10 Associates. Is, is that a -- what kind of an entity would
- 11 that be?
- 12 MR. BARKETT: Stevenson and Associates is, I might
- 13 characterize them as a, a subsidiary simulcast coordinator
- 14 that packages contracts for various simulcast entities in --
- 15 some of which are in the U.S. and some of which are not.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: So, so how would we know,
- 17 and I invite staff to comment here, as well, that Stevenson
- 18 Associates isn't sending the signal to some illegal offshore
- 19 entity that is using that signal then to have wagers placed
- 20 on it that don't benefit California or the industry? And I
- 21 see Mr. Reagan got up. Maybe he can answer.
- 22 SENIOR PARIMUTUEL EXAMINER REAGAN: Commissioners,
- John Reagan, CHRB staff.
- 24 We've actually had several meetings with the
- 25 Stevenson management over the years. They've actually

1 appeared at some of our parimutuel meetings as a management

- 2 organization, as a provider of simulcasts connections
- 3 throughout the Caribbean and other locations and, and those
- 4 areas South America will not. We found them to be a very
- 5 serious organization with a racing background, people that
- 6 were just as interested in -- as we are in providing the
- 7 signals to appropriate organizations, and they have people
- 8 that we have worked with in California that have become part
- 9 of that, that management team.
- 10 So as much as possible, we, we believe that they
- 11 are making a serious effort to do business with legitimate
- 12 people, people that will pay the bills and treat the signal
- 13 properly. And that's about as much as we can do.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Mr. Barkett, in terms
- 15 of your cameras that they use at the track to, for
- 16 officiating. It says three cameras and towers, one hand-
- 17 held camera, and one pan camera in the announcer's booth.
- 18 Does that mean, do these cameras have head-on, are they
- 19 head-on cameras? And, and also could you just elaborate on
- 20 what equipment's available at the stewards to make sure that
- 21 they're getting a clear picture to be able to see the races?
- 22 MR. BARKETT: The stewards did have a concern last
- 23 year, which I discussed with them. We had some trees that
- 24 were blocking some of the views. We added a camera, we did
- 25 extensive pruning of the trees, and they are satisfied now

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1 that they have clear views. At least that's my
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- 2 understanding.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And, and is, are one of
- 4 these cameras a head-on camera, do you know?
- 5 MR. BARKETT: Yes, I think.
- 6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: They, they have a pan
- 7 of seven-eighths, and then they have a head-on through the
- 8 stretch. I don't know about the, whether the other one that
- 9 they asked for was, was at the 5/16th, the one that brings
- 10 them around the turn?
- MR. BARKETT: Yes.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And is there, so is there
- 13 not a head-on view going down the back stretch?
- 14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Three-eighths?
- 15 MR. BARKETT: I, I don't think we have head-on
- 16 view of the entire back stretch, but we added a camera back
- 17 there.
- 18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Well, you have a
- 19 three-eighths, a seven-eighths, and a pan, but you -- I, I
- 20 misspoke. But you probably don't have the five, 5/16th that
- 21 we've been talking about. Is that correct?
- MR. BARKETT: No, we don't.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, I'm, I think that it
- 24 would be helpful to us that if, if we could get an update
- 25 and know exactly what type of cameras that you have here,

1 and so that we make sure that our officials have the tools

- 2 that they need to, to do the officiating, and I think that,
- 3 you know, we, we've brought this up with other racing
- 4 associations that it might be useful to us to make sure that
- 5 we have the right cameras in the right places.
- 6 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: One thing I think would be
- 7 useful would be if at the conclusion of each meet, if the
- 8 stewards could give us a report of what all suggestions they
- 9 feel are needed, including camera angles, and all those are
- 10 looked at and incorporated into the next license application
- 11 to see how they're dealt with, because it seems like a lot
- 12 of times there's issues that sort of out there but we don't
- 13 necessarily resolve them.
- I think in this case they probably have, but it'd
- 15 be a good protocol.
- MR. KORBY: Mr. Chair, if I may. Chris Korby,
- 17 California Authority of Racing Fairs.
- 18 Speaking to the matter of the 5/16ths camera. We
- 19 have made arrangements to install a 5/16ths camera for the
- 20 officials at each fair. Whether or not we will have it in
- 21 place by the opening of the first two fairs is still a
- 22 matter to be worked out, just getting power there, getting
- 23 the mounts in place, and so forth. But we have entered into
- 24 an agreement with our video company to provide such a
- 25 camera. They have the equipment, we're going to be

- 1 installing it.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, okay. I appreciate
- 3 that. Could you report back to staff and let them know,
- 4 because I think we, we think that it probably should be in.
- 5 And you have a couple, month and a half or so, to get that
- 6 done, and perhaps you can get that done and, and let staff
- 7 know whether that's done.
- 8 MR. KORBY: Will do.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: For this meeting and the
- 10 others.
- MR. KORBY: I'm sorry?
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: For this meeting, and, and
- 13 for the other fairs.
- MR. KORBY: Right.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I also notice that on the
- 16 backstretch housing, it said that there was one restroom for
- 17 25 people. And I don't know if that's customary at, at a
- 18 lot of tracks, but it just seemed, is that something that
- 19 historically has been the case, or --
- 20 MR. BARKETT: That is our permanent restroom
- 21 that's back there.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: That's -- you have --
- MR. BARKETT: We do.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Oh, okay. Great.
- COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'm not sure it actually,

- 1 not to pick on Vallejo, but in that overall statistic we
- 2 talk about restrooms. I don't know if those mean restrooms
- 3 as a building, or just restrooms as one --
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Facilities.
- 5 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Facilities.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And I'm not trying to pick
- 7 on Vallejo, either.
- 8 MR. BARKETT: That's a separate facility that,
- 9 that we refer to.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. Does anybody
- 11 else have any comments or -- if not, I'd entertain --
- 12 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Are any of the issues, just
- 13 so we know, and it may come up later, on the ADW contracts
- 14 as far as the hub fees, or any fee issues that are in
- 15 dispute between the track and or the horsemen and the ADW
- 16 providers?
- 17 MR. KORBY: We have none. Chris Korby, California
- 18 Authority of Racing Fairs. We have none. We have contracts
- 19 in place, and my friend, Mr. Koch, who was just shaking his
- 20 head, no there is not an issue with the horsemen with
- 21 respect to the fairs.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. Does anybody
- 23 want to make a motion? If not, I'll make a motion to
- 24 approve this license application.
- 25 Is there a second?

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1 COMMISSIONER BIANCO: Second.
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- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Seconded.
- 3 All those in favor?
- 4 (Ayes.)
- 5 MR. BARKETT: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 7 The next item is consideration of the racing
- 8 license application at Santa Rosa.
- 9 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 10 Horse Racing Board staff.
- 11 This is the application for Sonoma County Fair to
- 12 run at Santa Rosa from July 26th to August 7th. They will
- 13 -- propose to race 12 days, the same as last year. They
- 14 will be racing Wednesday through Monday with ten races, and
- 15 12 races on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The first post
- will be at 12:45, and a 2:15 post on Fridays.
- 17 They do not have any outstanding documents, and
- 18 the staff recommends that the Board approve the application.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 20 MR. OAKLEY: Corey Oakley, of the Sonoma County
- 21 Fair. Excuse me.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Welcome. Would I be correct
- 23 in assuming that the ADW contracts are governed, are they
- 24 all done by CARF, so that all your agency contracts are the
- 25 same as what we just heard?

- 1 MR. OAKLEY: Yes.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Yes. Thank you.
- 3 In terms of, of the cameras on the -- viewing the
- 4 races, you also are working to getting a 5/16th camera?
- 5 MR. OAKLEY: Yes. As a matter of fact, I was just
- 6 speaking with Mr. Port from Pegasus, who does our, all of
- 7 our cameras, and we will have the 5/16th at the head of the
- 8 back stretch.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. And you have a head-
- 10 on for your turf course, I see.
- MR. OAKLEY: Yes.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And you're not doing toast
- 13 for the turf, you're to the chute?
- MR. OAKLEY: Toast of the turf was a great
- 15 promotion, but --
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Yeah, it was --
- MR. OAKLEY: The first time.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I thought it was great.
- 19 I was very impressed with your promotion, the
- 20 promotions and things that were in your license application
- 21 and want to compliment you on that.
- MR. OAKLEY: Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And also your disclosing how
- 24 much money you spend on your advertising. I thought that
- 25 was very forthcoming.

1 Can you describe the new grandstand upper level

- 2 guest information booth? That, that sounded very
- 3 interesting, too.
- 4 MR. OAKLEY: The majority of our upstairs guests
- 5 are casual players, as well as VIPs and that kind of thing.
- 6 And they, they spend a lot of time up there in the boxes and
- 7 in the, in the executive seats. The more, the more serious
- 8 ones sometimes are downstairs. We noticed that we have a
- 9 lot of folks coming downstairs, spending a lot of time kind
- 10 of going up and down to get information, and so we decided
- 11 that it would be best if they were spending their time
- 12 either at the machines, the windows, or eating. So we put,
- 13 we're going to put, we're going to go ahead and put a guest
- 14 services center right there at that level.
- 15 It just is, you now, a logistics issue for us, but
- 16 we wanted to make sure that the folks didn't have to go too
- 17 far. Basically, it will, it will have betting information,
- 18 if that's necessary, general horse racing information, and
- 19 any other questions that, that come up. We just really felt
- 20 the need to have a guest services operation up there at
- 21 that, at that level.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I thought it was, again, I
- 23 was very impressed with your application.
- 24 Does anybody have any questions they wish to ask?
- 25 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'd just like to amplify

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1 that. I think it's great that Santa Rosa establish their,
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- 2 their turf course, and I would think it would work even
- 3 better this year than it did last year, and it's really
- 4 exciting for racing.
- 5 MR. OAKLEY: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. Do we have a
- 7 motion to approve this application?
- 8 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: So move.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Second?
- 10 COMMISSIONER BIANCO: Second.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All those in favor?
- 12 (Ayes.)
- MR. OAKLEY: Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Congratulations.
- 15 All right. The next item is to conduct a race
- 16 meeting at the Del Mar -- by the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.
- 17 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 18 Horse Racing Board staff.
- 19 This is the application for the Del Mar
- 20 Thoroughbred Club. They'll be running from July 19th
- 21 through September 6th, be running 45 days, the same as last
- 22 year. They'll be racing six days per week. The first post
- will be 2:00 p.m. daily, 1:00 p.m. on Sundays, August 20th;
- 24 3:30 p.m. Friday, August -- August 18, 25, and September 1;
- 25 and 4:00 o'clock on Friday, July 21, 28, and August 4 and

- 1 11.
- 2 As indicated in the staff analysis, there are a
- 3 few changes from the 2005 application. They've increased
- 4 the admission and clubhouse parking, membership to the
- 5 season turf club, season box seats. They've also increased
- 6 the number of rooms for housing on the backstretch from 654
- 7 to 666, and the number of restrooms for the backstretch
- 8 personnel. At this time the only item we have outstanding
- 9 is the horsemen's agreement, and we are told that that is in
- 10 negotiations at this time.
- 11 The staff recommends that the Board approve the
- 12 application contingent upon receiving the horsemen's
- 13 agreement.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I see Mr. Fravel is there.
- 15 Can we first deal with the horsemen's agreement, as we
- 16 know --
- 17 MR. FRAVEL: Yeah. Craig Fravel, Del Mar
- 18 Thoroughbred Club.
- 19 Both horsemen's agreements have actually been
- 20 mailed to staff. I think the TOC agreement was fed-ex'd up
- 21 on Wednesday, so it should've been there yesterday morning.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO; So there has been an
- 23 agreement that's been reached?
- 24 MR. FRAVEL: Both are agreed upon and signed.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.

1 Mr. Fravel, would it be true to -- that you have a

- 2 new head-on camera?
- 3 MR. FRAVEL: The John Harris Memorial Head-on Turf
- 4 Camera. And I emphasize memorial.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I heard that. Could you
- 6 tell us exactly how tall this is?
- 7 (Parties speaking simultaneously.)
- 8 MR. FRAVEL: I believe it's 80 feet. It's a
- 9 broadcast standard camera, the same as the other cameras on
- 10 the race track, and so that will be fully operational for
- 11 the 2006 meet.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 13 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: That's great. Did they -- I
- 14 saw in the application that you built the tower. I thought
- 15 possibly that was just the tower and next year you were
- 16 going to get the camera.
- 17 MR. FRAVEL: We thought about just building the
- 18 tower and leaving it empty, and we figured you're easy to
- 19 fool. But --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And is your -- I know that
- 21 when I was down there last you were building a new barn. Is
- that barn there?
- MR. FRAVEL: There -- actually, all the front side
- 24 barns except for W Barn have been torn down. X and Y I
- 25 believe are the numbers. And the large-scale multi-purpose

- 1 livestock facilities have been replaced, they've been
- 2 replaced with livestock facilities to the tune of about \$15
- 3 million. And so horsemen who have previously stabled on the
- 4 front side will have new facilities to be in. And they're
- 5 huge.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And with respect to ADW
- 7 wagering, are your ADW wagering agreements in place, and who
- 8 will be broadcasting?
- 9 MR. FRAVEL: Our in-state ADW providers are TVG
- 10 and UBET, and out of state the signal is also carried by
- 11 Express Bet for certain jurisdictions where there are not
- 12 TVG exclusives, and America Tab, under a sub-license
- 13 agreement with TVG.
- 14 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: So there's no disputes on
- 15 any of the funds, as far as any, any --
- MR. FRAVEL: No, not yet.
- 17 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Well, I mean, is it done?
- 18 MR. FRAVEL: We haven't got a horsemen's consent
- 19 yet on those.
- 20 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Well, I thought that was
- 21 part of the horsemen's agreement. No?
- 22 MR. FRAVEL: Not specifically on that one, no.
- 23 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think it's -- well, I
- 24 think it is important that we get these things resolved, you
- 25 know, sooner rather than later, so we don't get to opening

- 1 day and, and have a dispute.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Are there any other
- 3 questions?
- 4 MR. COUTO: Good afternoon. Drew Couto,
- 5 Thoroughbred Owners of California.
- I agree with you, Mr. Harris. We brought this
- 7 matter in front of the Horse Racing Board in February. It
- 8 wasn't heard in February, March or April at the request of
- 9 Senator Flores. There's a hearing on this up in Sacramento
- 10 on June 13th. So it's difficult to resolve something we
- 11 can't get a hearing on, but we're doing our best to, to get
- 12 it worked out. We had, we had an arrangement that allowed
- 13 Hollywood Park to go up despite the dispute, and I would
- 14 imagine if we don't have these issues resolved either in
- 15 front of the Horse Racing Board or the Senate that we'll
- 16 have a similar agreement that allows Del Mar to go forward.
- We have not been permitted to meet with TVG. We
- 18 have not been invited to meet with them since this has
- 19 started, so it's difficult to come to a resolution when
- 20 you're not invited to the table and you can't meet. We're
- 21 doing our best.
- 22 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'm not clear how you got it
- 23 resolved with the fairs, as far --
- 24 MR. COUTO: The fairs are non-exclusive
- 25 arrangements. They're under all three. The problem exists

- 1 when you have an exclusive arrangement.
- 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Can I just ask -- Mr.
- 3 Fravel, I know you haven't had a chance to discuss this. I
- 4 talked to Mr. Robbins, and just maybe as a matter of record,
- 5 I had some concern about Barn KK being the detention barn,
- 6 and that there was a problem with that last year, and
- 7 whether is that something that we could just at least
- 8 discuss, instead of having --
- 9 MR. COUTO: Yeah, I asked --
- 10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: -- it just be adopted.
- 11 MR. COUTO: I asked Mr. Robbins to get in touch
- 12 with you and sit down and discuss if you'd like to make some
- 13 changes in that.
- 14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Okay.
- 15 MR. COUTO: But we'll work with staff to get that
- 16 done properly.
- 17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. COUTO: Thank you.
- 19 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Mr. Chairman, members of the
- 20 Board, Jerry Jamgotchian. With regards to this application,
- 21 that was -- my first question is that are the horses going
- 22 to be taken out of their stalls to a detention barn at Del
- 23 Mar? Is that what's going to happen? Because I note in
- 24 here there's a detention barn requirement in the KK. So --
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I believe, Mr. Jamgotchian,

- 1 that deals with if there's a TCO2 positive, that they have
- 2 set aside a barn area that will be -- have the security and
- 3 those are the detention stalls that they're referring to.
- 4 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Fine. So it's for violations --
- 5 okay. That's fine. But not horses in graded races -- it's
- 6 not a detention barn for all, all graded races or all races,
- 7 or like stakes. There's not that requirement; correct?
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: That's correct.
- 9 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. Secondly, I'm hearing
- 10 things with regards to Del Mar's desire to acquire funds for
- 11 their Poly track, and I'm hearing that Del Mar is going to
- 12 be charging stall rent at their upcoming meet, or future
- 13 meets, to, to generate income for a Poly track. I wanted to
- 14 ask two questions.
- One, what's the Board's position on stall rent?
- 16 It's going to negatively affect all the owners in
- 17 California. And secondly, if, in fact, Del Mar is going to
- 18 do that, if Mr. Fravel would like to come in and -- come up
- 19 and address that. I'd like to know from him if that's
- what's going to happen.
- 21 MR. FRAVEL: Well, let me just answer that
- 22 question. California law prohibits us from charging stall
- 23 rent during our race meet, and we have absolutely no
- 24 intention of attempting to do that. So I think that's one
- of those rumors that is simply unfounded.

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1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Thank you.
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- 2 All right.
- 3 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Excuse me. I have two other
- 4 issues. With regards to the Poly track update, does the
- 5 Board have any information with regards to Del Mar's Poly
- 6 track update?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I don't believe that that is
- 8 something that would come under this item, Mr. Jamgotchian.
- 9 This is to consider their current racing license
- 10 application, and therefore it's not really party to this
- 11 discussion.
- 12 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: So it's not, it's not a question
- 13 I want to ask, then. Okay.
- 14 Additionally, the -- or finally, I guess, the
- 15 thing that is most concerning to me is what occurred last
- 16 year at Del Mar with regards to Intercontinental. Courtesy
- 17 of Scott Cheney, we got declarations --
- 18 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Mr. Jamgotchian,
- 19 we're --
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Excuse me.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No, excuse me.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: This is --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Excuse me.
- 24 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- this relates to security.
- CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No. Mr. Jamgotchian, we are

- 1 hearing the racing license application of this applicant.
- 2 If you have questions about their racing license application
- 3 that's before us, we will deal with that. We are not going
- 4 to get into any discussion about Intercontinental or Scott
- 5 Cheney, or anything else.
- 6 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: It has to do --
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And there is a hearing that
- 8 is scheduled for that, and we will hear those issues at that
- 9 time.
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: It, it has to do with Exhibit 9
- 11 of their application, page 4-25, where it says they're
- 12 implementing enhanced security for all greater races. So
- 13 Mr. Shapiro, if you want to review that page we can talk
- 14 about that.
- 15 One of the issues that you need to consider is
- 16 during any race, stakes race, Intercontinental or any other
- 17 stakes race, it was clear last year that there were no
- 18 communications between Mr. Templeton, Mr. Fravel, Mr.
- 19 Harper, the vets, the CHRB, nobody. Any racehorse,
- 20 including Intercontinental, who got a late Lasix shot, Mr.
- 21 Fravel signed a declaration under penalty of perjury that he
- 22 didn't even know anything about it.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Then, Mr. Jamgotchian, is
- 24 your question that you'd like to ask is, are you asking if
- 25 there will be any communications equipment at Del Mar that

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1 will be utilized in connection with any surveillance that
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- 2 is, is used during the race meeting; is that your question?
- 3 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, that's one of them. Let
- 4 me --
- 5 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. So, so ---
- 6 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- a general question would be
- 7 if the Board --
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- let's stay to general
- 9 questions.
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- if the, if the Board's
- 11 position with regards to this issue of security, if it's, in
- 12 fact, important, because last year, obviously, there were
- 13 some severe breakdowns with regards to this incident, as
- 14 well as other horses, that weren't even being monitored.
- 15 So, so this Exhibit Number 9 --
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: What is your question? Just
- 17 tell me what the question is. What you're asking is that
- 18 you would like to know whether there's communication
- 19 equipment that will be utilized, then let me ask Mr. Fravel.
- 20 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Right. We'll start with that.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Fravel, will there be
- 22 communications equipment that will be utilized at your race
- 23 meeting for the monitoring of stakes horses?
- 24 MR. FRAVEL: Well, as Mr. Channey's report
- 25 indicated, we have extensive communications equipment

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1 amongst various people. That doesn't mean everybody's
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- 2 always on the same channel at the same time, and the, the
- 3 fact of the matter is I understand Mr. Jamgotchian's
- 4 question, and I think there, there are parts of it that
- 5 obviously, you know, we can all improve what we do
- 6 constantly. And we don't think we're perfect and have no
- 7 pretensions of being perfect. And Ms. Fermin actually sent
- 8 an e-mail to Mr. Robbins and I the other day to make sure
- 9 that we schedule an extensive pre-race conference with our
- 10 security and management and Racing Department so that we can
- 11 improve, in whatever failures we may have had in the past,
- 12 that we can improve that communication security and whatever
- 13 other coordination between the CHRB staff and our own.
- 14 So we plan on having that meeting in the not too
- 15 distant future, including stewards, security, CHRB staff,
- 16 our Racing Department, and anybody else who needs to be
- 17 included in that.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. Thank you very
- 19 much.
- 20 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: That, that's a very nice answer,
- 21 but there was a pre-race conference prior to the last meet.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Mr. Jamgotchian, you
- just heard the answer.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: That's an answer --
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I'm sorry. If you have

1 another question about this application that deals with this

- 2 race meeting and their, the issuance of their license, then
- 3 ask that question.
- 4 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Yes. I, I am, but you keep
- 5 interrupting me. With regards to the security issues,
- 6 communications was a problem. Now, are they going to have
- 7 communications where everybody's going to find out? Like,
- 8 with regards to Intercontinental, nobody allegedly found out
- 9 until Sam Templeton walked up to the CHRB investigators.
- 10 There needs to be something -- I mean, Richard, if you don't
- 11 care about this, just ask me to sit down. But last year
- 12 with the Intercontinental, people were outright taken
- 13 advantage of by --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- this race --
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian, I certainly
- 17 care. I am, I am assured that Del Mar is going to do their
- 18 best to make sure that the communications are sufficient and
- 19 as best as they can be. And hopefully, they will pull it
- 20 off and it will all go well. I know they are trying their
- 21 best. Mistakes happen, errors happen. We thank you for,
- 22 for bringing to our attention a matter that we were unaware
- of, and so at this point I think that it's been asked and
- it's been answered.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, doesn't that concern --

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1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
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- 2 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- you? Doesn't that concern
- 3 you that --
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I've already said it
- 5 concerns me and, and I think we'll move forward.
- 6 I'd like to have a motion to approve this
- 7 application, if there are no further questions.
- 8 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: One thing I might mention is
- 9 that actually I support what they're doing on the TCO2, but
- 10 we need to keep in mind that these sanctions are track
- 11 sanctions. They do not, they are, they are in addition to
- 12 whatever CHRB sanctions are on, on high TCO2, so they will,
- 13 it'll supplant those. They just --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: You're correct.
- 15 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: They'll supplement them.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: That's now administered by
- 17 the CHRB, and so you're correct.
- 18 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: There are two parts of it.
- 19 Parts of it --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Correct, and I think it's
- 21 good that you brought that up.
- Is that a motion?
- 23 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Yeah. I'll make a motion to
- 24 approve the application.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Is there a second?

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1 COMMISSIONER BIANCO: Second.
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- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All those in favor?
- 3 (Ayes.)
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Consider it passed.
- 5 Okay. The next matter is approval, a discussion
- 6 and action by the Board on the approval of service, Steward
- 7 and Official Veterinarian contracts.
- 8 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 9 Horse Racing Board.
- 10 This is, what you have is an attached list of our
- 11 service contracts, official veterinarians and stewards.
- 12 These are contracts that are required to be approved by the
- 13 Board. They're required of us through the Department of
- 14 General Services, and they're state regulations.
- 15 All these, some of these contracts are multi-year
- 16 contracts. However, there really aren't any changes as far
- 17 as stewards and veterinarians, because we do the schedule
- 18 each year. I do want to point out that on the stewards
- 19 contracts, that those, because they are on the list does not
- 20 guarantee them any specific dates. The Executive Director
- 21 puts together the schedule each year, and so the dates could
- 22 change. But they are on there because the contracts
- 23 regulations for the State require the Board approval. So
- 24 that's why there are some on there who have less dates than
- 25 others, but I do want to make it clear that none of the

- 1 stewards have any guaranteed dates.
- 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: I'd also like, these,
- 3 most of these had been approved at earlier meetings, and the
- 4 main reason that we are doing this now is because of the
- 5 changes in the official veterinarians, that we had some
- 6 additions and changes there, and therefore it had to come
- 7 back on to the agenda, with Dr. Beck and Dr. Dooley coming
- 8 back on board.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: So if I, if I understand
- 10 this properly, essentially what we are simply doing is, is
- 11 approving the amounts in total that are allocated to these
- 12 either group of people, such as the stewards or the vets,
- 13 for the services that are provided. Is that correct?
- 14 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: That's
- 15 correct.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Does anybody have any
- 17 questions?
- 18 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think it's good to
- 19 clarify, which I think Bruce's referral, and Ingrid Fermin
- 20 did a great job of negotiating the, the deal with the
- 21 University of California at Davis on the Equine Medical
- 22 Director. But that total cost of that program is more than
- just the CHRB part.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Yeah, but --
- 25 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: So are there other moneys

- 1 going into that from industry and from UC itself?
- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I'd like to clarify. As
- 3 we've recently announced, Commissioner Moss and myself and,
- 4 and Executive Director Fermin, we met with the University of
- 5 California at Davis, and went through a full process to find
- 6 a new Equine Medical Director. And the result, which we
- 7 were pleased to announce, is that Dr. Rick Arthur has
- 8 accepted the position and will be closing his private
- 9 practice to become the Equine Medical Director, in a joint
- 10 announcement from the Board and also the University at
- 11 Davis. Everybody is very pleased with this.
- 12 To obtain Dr. Arthur, there was additional funding
- 13 that was required, and we are very happy that some of that
- 14 funding will be coming from private sources, it will be paid
- 15 directly to UC Davis, so that we could get somebody of Dr.
- 16 Arthur's stature to be the new Equine Medical Director. So
- 17 I think it's very good news, and I want to thank
- 18 Commissioner Moss for his help, and Executive Director
- 19 Fermin and, and everybody else who participated in securing
- 20 somebody of that caliber.
- Okay. If, if there are no questions, then I'll
- 22 entertain a motion to approve this.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Excuse me. I have a question.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Oh, I didn't see you.
- 25 Sorry. Go ahead.

1 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I think your, your appointment

- of Dr. Arthur is great.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 4 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I congratulate you on that.
- 5 With regards to --
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, I, I just want you to
- 7 -- would you make sure that the court reporter got that,
- 8 that that was Jerry Jamgotchian saying we did something
- 9 great, and he congratulated us. Thank you.
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I can assure you that when that
- 11 happens I'll be more, more than happy to acknowledge it. I
- 12 just don't see it happening a lot.
- 13 The, the basis of, of Mr. Arthur's salary, I see
- 14 it's approximately 157,000 a year. Is that accurate?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO; No. The amount that is, is
- 16 paid from, from our funds is \$157,000. The additional money
- 17 that he will receive, which has been approved by the UC
- 18 Regents as well, is coming from private sources.
- 19 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Approximately how much is that?
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I believe it's about 43,000,
- 21 45,000.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Fine.
- COMMISSIONER HARRIS: He's really employed by the
- 24 UC system.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Right. He's an employee of

- 1 the UC, of the UC system.
- 2 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Fine. The, the number on this
- 3 sheet that, that bothers me the most as a, as a owner of
- 4 racehorses in California, is the \$1,720,000 for steward
- 5 services. Now, obviously, stewards are important. I don't
- 6 disagree with that question. In fact, there are some, some
- 7 very --
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Don't -- why don't you
- 9 just --
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- well-intentioned,
- 11 knowledgeable stewards that have been employed recently.
- 12 There's a couple of them here that I'm, I'm wondering why
- 13 they keep being carried. One of them, I, I got to ask.
- 14 From the perspective of the California Horse Racing Board,
- 15 if a steward was fined and suspended in a prior state, why
- 16 --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian --
- 18 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- no, no, I'm just asking a
- 19 general question.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- I'm sorry. It's not on
- 21 point. It's not on point, and we're not going to get into
- 22 that. Now --
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: No, it's what --
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- if you want to address
- 25 how much money is allocated to employing the stewards, if

- 1 you would -- we assure you that we would appreciate any
- 2 support that you wish to lend to us to increase our budget
- 3 so that we can have more veterinarians and more stewards and
- 4 more staff, we'd be more than happy to accept that help.
- 5 All we're doing here is reviewing the amounts and, and
- 6 simply approving the amount that is allocated to these
- 7 individuals. We're not going to go into --
- 8 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: We're not endorsing any one
- 9 steward.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: It has nothing to do with
- 11 individual stewards.
- 12 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: No, no. I'm asking a general
- 13 question. I'm asking a general question. You have a, a
- 14 group of stewards here, but are there yearly reviews of
- 15 these stewards? I mean, why do you -- as you know, Mr.
- 16 Shapiro, these stewards are independent contractors. They
- 17 have a year contract. If they don't do a good job, you can
- 18 fire them immediately for cause. There's no reason to keep
- 19 carrying these same stewards year by year by year as they
- 20 continue to get the California Horse Racing Board in lawsuit
- 21 after lawsuit after lawsuit.
- 22 The question I'm asking you is what is the Board
- 23 going to do about a review process of stewards? Is that
- 24 important to you?
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Yes. That is important.

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1 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. So what are you doing --
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- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Let me answer that question.
- 3 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- about it?
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. The Stewards
- 5 Committee is, is meeting. It does meet throughout the year,
- 6 and we, we are doing reviews of stewards. Okay. And we are
- 7 moving forward to review all of our personnel, including our
- 8 investigators and our stewards, and we are putting together
- 9 programs and a protocol to do that. We are also moving
- 10 forward to make sure that all of our stewards are accredited
- 11 stewards. So that is taking place.
- 12 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: So you're paying some stewards
- 13 \$121,000 a year, Mr. Slennerd, to be specific. You're
- 14 paying Mr. Slennerd \$121,000 a year. Now, to review Mr.
- 15 Slennerd's work, or to review Mr. Sawyer's work, we have
- 16 stewards that have been suspended in other states.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. You know what?
- 18 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Don't you think --
- 19 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I'm just not going to
- 20 indulge that. I'm just not going to go there. I'm sorry.
- 21 I'm going to ask is there a motion to approve this?
- 22 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, wait, wait. I'm not --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No. You know what?
- 24 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- that's only one issue.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: If you're going there, I'm

- 1 not going there.
- 2 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: That's only -- that's the --
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian, if you have
- 4 a general question, I'm not going to allow you to bring up
- 5 any particular individuals' names. I'm not going to do it.
- 6 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. Is there --
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay? So either --
- 8 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- any background work --
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: If you want to ask a general
- 10 question about what we're doing, then we're doing, then
- 11 we're going to listen to you. Fine.
- 12 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Are there any background work
- 13 done on these stewards prior to their, their independent
- 14 contractor agreement?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Yes, there is.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. So if, in fact, there's
- 17 something in their background that nullifies them from being
- 18 a steward, either being suspended or fined, how do you, how
- 19 do you know about that?
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Because we do background
- 21 checks.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: And so if --
- COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Well, the purpose of this
- 24 discussion was not to review the stewards. It's to approve
- 25 the contract.

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1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: That's correct.
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- 2 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I move we approve the
- 3 contract.
- 4 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. But --
- 5 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Is there a second?
- 6 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: But a million 720 --
- 7 COMMISSIONER BIANCO: I second it.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: There's been a first and a
- 9 second.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Excuse me --
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No.
- 12 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Excuse me. I --
- 13 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No. We're done with the
- 14 discussion.
- 15 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I have one last question.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I'm sorry, but the
- 17 discussion is closed. I --
- 18 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: The discussion isn't closed, and
- 19 now the --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All those in favor?
- 21 (Ayes.)
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: It's approved. We're done.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: This is not the way to handle a
- 24 meeting. Let me ask one more question.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: The next matter up for --

- 1 Mr. Jamgotchian --
- 2 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: One final question.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- we're done. No. We're
- 4 done. Now, if you wish to stay in this meeting, then I ask
- 5 you to stop.
- 6 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Why is that?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Because I will ask to have
- 8 you removed. That's why.
- 9 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Would you like to remove me, Mr.
- 10 Shapiro?
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No. I personally am not
- 12 going to remove you.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I'm going to ask for you to
- 15 be removed if you won't sit down.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, I have a question. If you
- 17 want to --
- 18 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No. Mr. --
- 19 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: If you'd like to --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- Mr. Jamgotchian, please
- 21 sit down.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: If you'd like to ask --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian, please sit
- 24 down. We're moving on.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I'd like to ask a question.

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1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. I'm going to,
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- 2 I'm going to take a break from this meeting, and I'm going
- 3 to ask that Mr. Jamgotchian be removed from the room if he's
- 4 not going to sit down.
- 5 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. You know what?
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: It's that simple.
- 7 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: That's fine. That's fine. No
- 8 problem.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Will you please sit down?
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: No. I'll, I will leave the
- 11 meeting, and I thank you for your courtesy.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 13 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Are you sure you want me to
- 14 leave?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. The next item on
- 16 the agenda is Item Number 6, Public Hearing by the Board on
- 17 the adoption of the proposed amendment to CHRB Rule 1433.
- 18 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 19 Horse Racing Board.
- This is proposed amendment 1433. It requires that
- 21 no racing association that operates four or more continuous
- 22 weeks of thoroughbred racing in a calendar year shall be
- 23 licensed unless it has installed a polymer synthetic type
- 24 racing surface, or poly track. This item is up for
- 25 adoption.

1 We've had the 45-day notification period. We've

- 2 had several comments. One was entirely favor, favorable to
- 3 the installation of the synthetic race tracks. Another one
- 4 indicated that it was going to create additional problems,
- 5 and then we have a third comment that stated the rule change
- 6 is well intended, but is a recipe for disaster.
- 7 But other than that, we've had no other comments,
- 8 and the staff recommends that the Board adopt, take action
- 9 to adopt the regulation.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you. Clearly, I make
- 11 it, made it no secret, I'm very much in favor of our
- 12 proceeding with this, and I think we only have to look at
- 13 the unfortunate circumstance of Barbaro this past week, that
- 14 we all have to do what we can to install safer racing
- 15 surfaces. And while it's not just the racing surfaces that
- 16 are the problem, it's certainly a contributing factor.
- 17 And therefore, I would hope to see our Board move
- 18 forward with this. I, I know that we've had lots of
- 19 meetings since we first brought this up. We've had four
- 20 different companies make presentations to the racing
- 21 industry with respect to what surface they, that may
- 22 ultimately be envisioned or installed at our tracks.
- I also think that it's very clear that while
- 24 Turfway has had some wonderful experiences, there's things
- 25 that we've seen at Turfway that we don't want in California,

- 1 and there's other considerations in California such as
- 2 climate and UV rays, and things that we have to deal with.
- 3 But I believe that those issues are solvable. I know that
- 4 there are various studies being done with respect to health
- 5 concerns of our riders and also the horses. And so I would
- 6 urge that the Board, and encourage the Board to move forward
- 7 with this so that we continue our progress.
- 8 Does anybody have any comments or questions to
- 9 this?
- 10 COMMISSIONER MOSS: I do. My only, my, my concern
- 11 is that having been presented the four different procedures
- 12 in regard to the polymer surface racetrack, I think that we
- 13 need to perhaps study this a bit more. And, I mean, I, I
- 14 foresee a situation where perhaps three main racetracks in
- 15 southern California could use three different kinds of
- 16 polymer surfaces. And it's clearly up to those individuals
- 17 to pick the surface they think is going to best benefit
- 18 their track. I don't see the Board have any particular, you
- 19 know, ideas of ruling on something like that. It's a
- 20 personal decision.
- 21 I just feel that there just needs to be more
- 22 study, and I don't know if this current application involves
- 23 the study that needs to be made. That's the question I'm
- 24 asking.
- MR. HALPERN: Ed Halpern, California Thoroughbred

- 1 Trainers. I'd just like to make a short comment.
- 2 Our Board of Directors, who by law represents all
- 3 of the trainers in California, understands that there are
- 4 some trainers with some concerns about this, and we all have
- 5 some concerns. But our Board unanimously voted to favor
- 6 this, this proposition or this rule being put in place. The
- 7 basic premise behind that is, as Richard Mandela said, the
- 8 one issue that we can look at and make a decision on today
- 9 is that all evidence is that this turf is, is safer for the
- 10 animals that run on it, and therefore safer for the people
- 11 who ride on it.
- 12 All the other concerns we believe will be handled
- 13 over time. They are sort of secondary. And the kind of
- 14 things you deal with, I know many of you have been involved
- in, in construction projects and building projects, as I am.
- 16 And I can tell you that, that over the past 30 to 40 years I
- 17 probably would not have done any of the projects we've done
- 18 had I been stopped by some of the concerns we had. Along
- 19 the way you just take care of those concerns. I have not
- 20 heard any concern about poly track that says we ought to
- 21 stop and not move forward.
- 22 When this proposition was first put forth by the
- 23 Board, I stood up and said in six years of coming to these
- 24 meetings, this the most important item I've seen acted upon
- 25 by this Board. And I think it would be a true shame for the

- 1 Board to back down at this point.
- 2 With all due respect, I, I understand Commissioner
- 3 Moss' concerns. My, my concern about that is that the kinds
- 4 of concerns we're hearing from trainers, or from some
- 5 trainers, and not very many, will, will -- are unlikely to
- 6 be solved by study in the near future. They're the kinds of
- 7 things we'd have to study for many, many years before we'd
- 8 know the results. And I think we will find those answers
- 9 when we have poly track or, or a polymer surface in, either
- 10 way.
- 11 So I think it's very important for the Board to
- 12 move forward on this. We're already seeing action from a
- 13 lot of the tracks, and if the Board has not moved forward to
- 14 this point, I don't believe we'd've seen that action so far.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Mr. Chairman, members of the,
- 17 the Board, there was an agenda item passed by the City of
- 18 Hawthorne, 7036, relating to making Hollywood Park a
- 19 historical, historical monument. And I'm wondering if in
- 20 fact a poly track would be allowed to be built if, in fact,
- 21 Hollywood Park is deemed a historical preservation site.
- 22 Did anybody check that out?
- 23 CHAIRMAN SHAPIRO: I have no idea.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. I'm just --
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I don't know.

1 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I'm referencing for the staff,

- 2 if they want to look it up, Hawthorne City Council
- 3 Resolution 7036. It was signed into law, or signed on
- 4 Tuesday, and it stated the city council recommends to the
- 5 City of Hawthorne that the Hollywood Park Racetrack be
- 6 declared a historical preservation site, and that any
- 7 contemplated development of a -- excuse me, redevelopment of
- 8 a racetrack should be opposed by the city council of the
- 9 City of Inglewood.
- 10 I just wanted to tell you that maybe this would
- 11 stop a poly track at Hollywood Park, because I thought
- 12 Hollywood Park was going to install one for, after this
- 13 meet, so --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Thank you.
- 15 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- that's the question.
- MR. ZUCKER: Howard Zucker, CTT Board. I'm on the
- 17 Track Safety Committee.
- 18 This is not the first time I've addressed you.
- 19 Nothing's changed since the first time I addressed you. I
- 20 don't want to come up and just say the same old, same old.
- 21 You're starting to see the fives and the sixes when we look
- 22 at our fields again.
- I've talked this over with many a vet, both vets
- 24 onsite at Turfway Park, with Dr. McElwaith, foremost
- 25 orthopedic surgeon who runs the track safety study that

- 1 we've, we've had Dr. Peterson come out of our engineer.
- 2 Both Dr. McElwaith and Dr. Peterson are sold on this surface
- 3 as far as safety goes.
- 4 The concerns that we've heard expressed are
- 5 concerns with performance of the track, and they can be
- 6 dealt with. All these tracks are not, they're not just the
- 7 way they are when they put them in. They can, they can
- 8 adjust them, as far as performance goes. But nobody has
- 9 found a poly track that's not safe. And if we can't start
- 10 with safe and move on from there, we're going to keep doing
- 11 what we've been doing, and we've proven over and over again
- 12 we cannot manage our organic tracks. Our tracks aren't
- 13 really organic anymore. They're mixtures that man has made.
- 14 They bring in sand, they bring in organic, they, they watch
- 15 the clay content.
- 16 If there was in Utopia, maybe, you could find some
- 17 natural sandy loam that horsemen have always looked for and
- 18 resurface all our tracks, and re-do the bottoms, and we'd
- 19 have new tracks and they'd probably be good. We've been
- 20 told that those materials don't exist anymore, not any way
- 21 to get them.
- 22 And here's a, here's a chance for us to be on the
- 23 forefront of making for safe racing. Nick Nicholson said it
- 24 best when he gave the poly track presentation at a seminar
- 25 that Mr. Shapiro arranged. His board and he decided at some

- 1 point that making a safe racetrack will cure a lot of the
- 2 ills that we deal with in this game, not just the safety of
- 3 the horses but all the economic problems. A lot of
- 4 improvements will stem from having full fields.
- 5 This only just makes too much sense, and all the
- 6 trainers that sent, that were in that first meeting, I went
- 7 back through them in the last few days, and they all feel
- 8 the same way. We need to change. As Mr. Mandela said, we
- 9 really don't have anything to lose. It can't be any worse
- 10 than it is.
- 11 Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you. Is there anybody
- 13 else in the audience that wishes to address this subject?
- 14 MR. FRAVEL: Mr. Chairman, Craig Fravel, Del Mar
- 15 Thoroughbred Club.
- 16 As you know, I've been somewhat outspoken on this
- 17 subject, not necessarily in terms of mandating, but in terms
- 18 of the, the wisdom and the opportunity that we have here to
- 19 be at the forefront. And I know that the California Horse
- 20 Racing Board has gotten massive amounts of positive
- 21 publicity around the country as a result of the action that
- 22 you took at your last meeting, simply noticing this rule for
- 23 rulemaking.
- 24 After Saturday's incident, I don't want to pretend
- 25 that that wouldn't have happened on poly track, none of us

1 could possibly predict or say whether that would've happened

- 2 or not. But the San Diego Union ran an article the very
- 3 next day, and three or four paragraphs into it, the, the
- 4 basic premise was that racing can no longer get away with
- 5 saying that's part of horse racing. If that remains part of
- 6 horse racing, there's not going to be horse racing much
- 7 longer.
- 8 But the rest of it was that both Del Mar and the
- 9 California Horse Racing Board were moving forward to do
- 10 something about that in a positive way. And a lot of
- 11 lemonade was made out of lemons as a result of that,
- 12 particularly in San Diego, and I think that, that your
- 13 actions on this in this regard will, will show the way for a
- 14 lot of people around this country. And I assure you, having
- 15 lost horses go over this by the thousands in England and,
- 16 and in Kentucky, and talk to outriders and exercise riders
- 17 and jockeys, you are not making a mistake.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 20 MR. COUTO: Good afternoon, again. Drew Couto,
- 21 Thoroughbred Owners of California.
- I, I, too, want to compliment the Horse Racing
- 23 Board and Mr. Harris for his comments, and the article in
- 24 the San Diego Union the other day did reflect very well upon
- 25 the California horse racing industry in comparison to many

- 1 out of state jurisdictions.
- 2 I feel sort of silly getting up here again for
- 3 probably the fifth time over the past half a year to, to say
- 4 the same thing. But, but my board completely supports this
- 5 rule, and the decision of the Horse Racing Board, as we
- 6 pointed out before, by conservative estimates, we lose about
- 7 \$6 million worth of horses each month on the track, and not
- 8 necessarily to catastrophic injuries but to injuries that
- 9 take them out of training. And six, I'm sorry, \$6 million a
- 10 month, in comparison, would cost these tracks seems, seems a
- 11 fair trade. It's very important to this industry that we do
- 12 something along this line. And, and again, my Board
- 13 supports it completely.
- 14 Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 16 MR. HAIRE: Darrell Haire, National Manager of the
- 17 Jockeys Guild.
- 18 I just want to say that the jockeys are in support
- 19 of the poly track. I've spoken with riders that have ridden
- 20 over the, the poly track, and they feel like this is the way
- 21 to go. We did have some concerns about the, the fibers, and
- 22 we understand it's being tested and, and that we're going to
- 23 be happy with the result of that. So we support the poly
- 24 track, the jockeys and the Jockeys Guild.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.

1 MR. CHARLES: Ron Charles, MEC. I, I'd just like

- 2 to respond to Commissioner Moss' question, because I, I
- 3 think it's an excellent one, and it's one that I posed to
- 4 all four of the groups who made presentations regarding
- 5 these synthetic surfaces. And that was are they going to be
- 6 able to translate the form, or are the surfaces going to be
- 7 so different when they go from one to another, and all four
- 8 presentations agreed that there would be so little
- 9 difference in the actual surface between the four poly track
- 10 equestrian surfaces, Michael Dickinson, so they really don't
- 11 believe that's a problem that we're going to be faced with.
- 12 Should we put three or four different providers
- down on the track, then we're going to have a very
- 14 consistent surface. Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you. I should add
- 16 that one thing that we did see in the four different
- 17 presentations was I don't think there was any difference in
- 18 terms of the base and the drainage and the sub, what I call
- 19 the sub-structure of the surface. The only difference was
- 20 actually the composition of the material that the horses ran
- 21 on, and most of that was estimated that 80 percent of it was
- 22 the same, anyway. It was just the mixture that was a little
- 23 bit different.
- 24 I appreciate Commissioner Moss' wanting to move
- 25 diligently here, and it's my intention, and I think

- 1 everyone's intention, that we do that. And for that
- 2 purpose, I think that we should continue doing the studies
- 3 and we should continue analyzing this up and through and
- 4 after we install any polymer or synthetic type surfaces.
- 5 But I don't need to remind anybody, they just need to look
- 6 at the post-mortem report of December 31st, 2004, and when
- 7 you look at what the number of horses that were fatally
- 8 injured, or you look at the injuries, it's a pretty
- 9 astounding item.
- 10 And so I, I think that we will move prudently.
- 11 It's certainly everyone's intent, and I would hope that we
- 12 would have the flexibility that if we hit a bump in the
- 13 road, or we see something that concerns us, that we re-
- 14 group, we re-analyze, and we look to make any corrections in
- 15 the middle of the course of which we're doing this.
- But, again, I think that it would be imprudent for
- 17 us not to move in this direction. Therefore, if -- is there
- 18 anymore comments from the Board?
- 19 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'd agree, Richard, that --
- 20 I, I think no one can be 100 percent certain that this is
- 21 the way to go, but it's, it does hold so much promise that
- 22 we'd be foolish not to pursue it. And unfortunately, we're
- 23 an industry that doesn't get things done without deadlines.
- 24 It's a classic situation like that, and I don't think, if we
- 25 don't have a deadline, we're just not going to do it. And

- 1 that's, I'm a little bit worried about a deadline on
- 2 something like this because there's basically five different
- 3 tracks in California that are impacted by this rule, and we
- 4 only really have 18 months to put in five different poly
- 5 tracks.
- 6 But I think we can always make minor modifications
- 7 along the way. If it's going to take a few more months here
- 8 or there, we're, we'd probably be understanding about it.
- 9 But I, I think we should move forward.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO; I agree with you, and I
- 11 think because we are doing this as a rule and, and not
- 12 through legislation, that we will, and we can amend the rule
- 13 or change rules so that we can be sensitive to the time that
- 14 it may need. Therefore, if there's no more discussion, I'll
- 15 make a motion that we approve this.
- 16 Is there a second?
- 17 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Second.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All those in favor.
- 19 (Ayes.)
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Opposed? None.
- 21 It carries.
- The next item is the proposed amendment to CHRB
- 23 Rule 1486, term of license.
- 24 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 25 Horse Racing Board.

1 This is a proposed amendment to 1486 to revise the

- 2 expiration date of one-year licenses from December 31 to the
- 3 last day of the birth month of the licensee.
- 4 The reason this came about is that we have a
- 5 category of one-year licenses such as grooms, stable
- 6 employees, out-walkers, et cetera, and they all expire on
- 7 December 31st. What that does is that creates an influx of
- 8 individuals that want to come and renew their licenses
- 9 during the month of December, even though we notified them
- 10 in November that they could do it early. But, of course,
- 11 everybody waits until the last minute.
- 12 Basically, that creates long lines, creates
- 13 delays, and we felt that in order to, with Commissioner
- 14 Andreini's assistance, we, we felt that in order to
- 15 alleviate the mad rush at the end of the year, that the
- 16 staff would amend the rule to allow the birthday -- to allow
- 17 the licenses to expire on the last day of the birth month of
- 18 the licensees, basically consistent with what we do with
- 19 trainers, owners, and other three-year licenses. And the
- 20 cost would be the same, and hopefully that would alleviate
- 21 the long lines and the frustration at the end -- during the
- 22 month of December.
- So this item is up for a 45-day notice period.
- 24 And so the staff asks the Board to approve the 45-day
- 25 comment period.

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1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. thank you.
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- Is there any comments?
- 3 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I was at Santa Anita shortly
- 4 after Christmas, and I noticed this. I couldn't figure out
- 5 what was going on at the CHRB office, there was a big line
- 6 all the way around it. And I think it's an excellent idea
- 7 to put it expire on the birthdays. My only concern is that
- 8 I think we would expand this more for a lot of the grooms on
- 9 the back side that've worked there for years, and that they
- 10 should also be able to have three-year licenses versus one-
- 11 year license. And I know some people are concerned about
- 12 one-year, you know, that it should be one because of turn-
- 13 over, but I think that perhaps once a person had had a one-
- 14 year license for more than two years it would eliminate a
- 15 lot of the paperwork and hassle that, that goes into it.
- 16 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: That was a
- 17 possibility that the staff considered, and, and for the very
- 18 reason you did state, that we rejected that, that option was
- 19 because of the transiency of, of the one-year licensees,
- 20 that they tend to turn over quite a bit. And so to give a
- 21 three-year license to a person who's only going to work a
- 22 few months or, or so, didn't seem to be very practical.
- CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, let me ask you a
- 24 question, because I, I agree with Commissioner Harris here.
- 25 In, in the old days you used to have to get a little sticker

1 so that you had your license, but then there would be, if it

- 2 was Los Alamitos, in L.A. or Hollywood and HB, or, or some
- 3 validation sticker. Is that now not done?
- 4 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Well, I'm
- 5 not sure how far back the old days are. That might be --
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: '78.
- 7 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: I believe
- 8 that the current racetracks do validate licenses and give
- 9 our stickers on top of the licenses. I'm not sure if they
- 10 still do that, but I think they still do.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Why couldn't we -- I mean, I
- 12 think that if, if somebody's worked on the back side for a
- 13 year and they've been in good standing, and there hasn't
- 14 been any problems, why shouldn't they qualify for a three-
- 15 year license and simply they have to get it validated within
- 16 some period of time close to their birthday, or something,
- 17 so it wasn't a mad rush, but would afford them not having to
- 18 go through that whole process again.
- 19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: When, when we
- 20 discussed this we thought that there, there are certain
- 21 barns that obviously have very little turn-over. There are
- 22 some barns that have a lot of turn-over, and that the major
- 23 racetracks do validate. However, with the three-year
- 24 license, and it isn't expired, they seem to be able to talk
- 25 their way, or whatever, and get into a restricted area, when

- 1 actually they are not employed or, or might not have any
- 2 business there. So we had thought that, that taking it one
- 3 step at a time, seeing if the one license expiring on
- 4 birthdays would alleviate the long lines, and also maintain
- 5 security for who's going in and out, and that that would be
- 6 a good first step.
- 7 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: There's also
- 8 a cost issue, too. The one-year license is \$25, so a three-
- 9 year license would cost \$75.
- 10 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I don't agree with that.
- 11 Why would a three-year cost more than a one-year? I mean
- 12 it's the same license.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I, I mean, again, these are,
- 14 the people that we're talking about, I don't think we're
- 15 looking to make money on them, and I think if we're issuing
- 16 a license, if anything, we should look to defray the cost to
- 17 them.
- COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Yeah, and I think we're not
- 19 trying to make money. I mean, it just seems, it --
- 20 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Well, we're
- 21 not trying to make money. It's, it's a matter of
- 22 mathematics. I mean, the one-year license is \$25, so a
- 23 three-year --
- 24 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: But our cost to issue a one-
- 25 year license would not differ from -- it's not going to, if

1 you get your three-year license, it's going to cost you any

- 2 more than if you issued a one-year license. So it seems
- 3 like that our costs don't go up by a three-year license.
- 4 Actually, they decrease because it -- arguably our cost
- 5 might be more than \$25 to issue a license.
- 6 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Well, you
- 7 can make the same argument that for every other license
- 8 classification, then, as far as, you know, trainers are
- 9 three-year licenses, they're \$150, \$50 a year. Same thing
- 10 with owners. I mean --
- 11 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think we need to set the
- 12 license fees, you know, whatever they should be, but I think
- 13 that the idea of, of doing it multi-year licenses has a lot
- 14 of advantages.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Yeah, I, I agree with, I
- 16 agree with Commissioner Harris on that.
- 17 COMMISSIONER ANDREINI: But it just, it just seems
- 18 -- you know, it just seems to me, and I brought this up
- 19 originally with Jackie, this is a, a different group of
- 20 people that we're talking about, not owners and trainers.
- 21 And as Mr. Harris said, the cost is going to be the same, I
- 22 mean, we just made it more convenient. I think it might
- 23 help those people a lot, and it would certainly get rid of
- 24 those long lines that, that -- and, and give them, make them
- 25 have a license for two years if, if one doesn't suit you.

1 But after they do that for a couple of years, they certainly

- 2 should be able to get a three-year license. I mean, that's
- 3 my view.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think the government has
- 5 gone that way. It used to be in the old days, I'm as old as
- 6 I am, that you had to get your driver's license renewed
- 7 every four years or so, and go down and all that. I haven't
- 8 been to the DMV in two years.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: You are old. Well, perhaps
- 10 what we should do is we should approve this, but during the
- 11 comment period, you know, see -- and I think we're headed in
- 12 the right direction, and so I would recommend that we
- 13 approve this, but during the comment period perhaps we can
- 14 look at seeing if perhaps the CTT, TOC and others might want
- 15 to give us some suggestions, because what we're really
- 16 trying to do is improve the efficiency of the operation of
- 17 the CHRB, and also the convenience, and address the cost of
- 18 the back side workers who, you know, shouldn't be viewed as
- 19 a source of making money here, and, and try to find a way
- 20 to, to make it most convenient and most economical for
- 21 everybody.
- 22 So is there a motion to approve this?
- 23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Just I, for
- 24 clarification, are you saying that you wanted them to have a
- 25 license for at least two years and then be eligible for a

- 1 three-year, if we go back and re-write --
- 2 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: If you're going to re-write
- 3 it and put it out for comments, I guess maybe that you, you,
- 4 maybe one year would be simpler if you -- once you've
- 5 completed your first year's license, you re-apply for a
- 6 three-year license.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I agree with that.
- 8 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: And, you know, arguably, it
- 9 may be you had to have a clean record during the first year
- 10 to achieve the three-year license.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: To qualify for a three-year
- 12 license, that somebody has to have completed at least one,
- 13 their first year without any issues, which then -- you know,
- 14 they're on probation for one year, and thereafter, if they
- 15 remain employed and they, they're committed to this business
- 16 and they are clean, have a clean record, we'll let them
- 17 qualify for a three-year license like every other
- 18 classification.
- 19 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Well, then
- 20 I, if that's the case, then if we have conditions such as
- 21 that, we'd have to define some kind of criteria, then, as
- 22 to, you know, what's a violation or what is a disqualifying
- 23 factor.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, I, I would assume that
- 25 any, if there's been no disciplinary action by any licensee,

1 or any complaints filed against -- well, not complaints, it

- 2 isn't fair, somebody could file a complaint, but, you know,
- 3 if we have somebody that's been disorderly and causing
- 4 problems in the back side, they wouldn't qualify for a
- 5 three-year license. But if somebody's remained in good
- 6 standing, they should qualify for a three-year license.
- 7 And however that's done with any classification of
- 8 licensing. I don't think it's right to treat people any
- 9 differently, no matter if they're getting owners or licensed
- 10 to, to a groom's license.
- 11 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Maybe we just need to re-
- 12 write. I would suggest we re-write it that way, and I think
- 13 we've got a consensus, and I'll move that we --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. All those in favor?
- 15 (Ayes.)
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Before we get off that, and
- 17 I, maybe this, perhaps we can put this on the agenda another
- 18 time. One of the issues that was brought to my attention is
- 19 that there are a lot of partnerships that are being formed
- 20 today, and there, as the trend goes to these racing
- 21 partnerships and trying to license all of the people that
- 22 may be buying into racing partnerships, I think that we have
- 23 to look at is there a better way to effectuate licensing
- 24 people that may join an entity that is a, is, has a lot of
- 25 different members in a racing partnership, and one of the

1 people I was talking to was talking about that there are

- 2 some celebrities who, who may not want to come in, they,
- 3 they own eight percent or 12 percent of a horse, and, you
- 4 know, to come in and get fingerprinted and so forth.
- 5 And I'm wondering if we couldn't look at a way, is
- 6 there a different classification where we can ensure the
- 7 integrity that holds the general partners responsible, but
- 8 also would accommodate our bringing new people into the
- 9 game. Because one of the things we have to recognize that
- 10 there's, there's emerging interest in, in setting up these
- 11 partnerships, and, and it's good for racing to bring some
- 12 into the game. So --
- 13 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think we, yeah, we need to
- 14 see if other jurisdictions have ways to deal with that.
- 15 I've always questioned the degree of fingerprints and other
- 16 things like that that we need from owners who are not really
- 17 going to be, you know, I can say, that involved. I mean,
- 18 the -- and also, the techniques that we use to get all
- 19 those, if there's any better way to, to do it. I mean --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, I, I know RCI has, you
- 21 know, is part of the national licensing compact, and, and
- 22 now there's, there's new technology which I believe that
- 23 we're using in terms of the fingerprinting. But I, I think
- 24 that we should have a, a report done by staff that may bring
- 25 forth some ideas of what we could do that would be, you

1 know, better and easier licensing and more convenient for

- 2 those people trying to be licensed, but also that would
- 3 accommodate bringing new people in to the sport through
- 4 these racing partnerships where they're part of a large
- 5 group. And it's impractical to get, you know, everybody in
- 6 to be licensed.
- 7 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: The problem is if you, if
- 8 you don't make it fairly easy to do, the you get a lot of
- 9 hidden ownership where the people who are going to be part
- 10 of the partnership, they just don't get licensed.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: That's right.
- 12 MR. KOCH: Hi, Mr. Shapiro, Billy Koch, owner.
- 13 Thank you for bringing this topic up. I know you
- 14 and I have had discussions and --
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I didn't disclose who I had
- 16 the discussions with.
- 17 MR. KOCH: I'm sorry. Now you know. But just,
- 18 all you guys, I don't want to go into details here, but I, I
- 19 have submitted a letter to, to Ms. Fermin, and we've had
- 20 some discussions, as well, about this. And I'm happy to get
- 21 together with other partnership groups and come to the CHRB
- 22 anytime for a meeting on this subject, and go over some of
- 23 the ideas that we have to do exactly what you're talking
- 24 about, and make these things, make it easier for people who
- 25 want to get licensed and some who don't want to get

- 1 licensed. And, and making sure that there is no hidden
- 2 ownership. And we have ideas and ways to do that, and we're
- 3 happy to come in and share them with you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, I think that's a good
- 5 idea, and perhaps you and some of the other racing
- 6 partnerships could get together and put forth what those
- 7 ideas are to help us, and help staff craft something that,
- 8 that hopefully will work and, and get new people in the
- 9 game.
- 10 MR. KOCH: Appreciate it. We have, and we will
- 11 continue to do so.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 13 All right. The next item is discussion and action
- on the proposed amendment to CHRB Rule 1733.
- 15 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 16 Horse Racing Board.
- 17 This is a proposed amendment to 1733, which is
- 18 Whips, and it, it asks to revise the allowed length of the
- 19 driver's whip. The USTA had extended their, the length of
- 20 their allowable driver's whip from three feet nine inches,
- 21 plus the snapper, to not longer than six inches, to a
- 22 maximum of four feet.
- 23 And the USTA has already brought this into their
- 24 rules, and this is a rule requested by the stewards to amend
- 25 our existing rule to bring us consistent with the USTA

- 1 rules.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Is there any comment,
- 3 discussion on this?
- 4 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: This is for
- 5 a 45-day notice period.
- 6 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I move we put out the
- 7 notice.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Second?
- 9 COMMISSIONER BIANCO: Second.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Seconded.
- 11 All those in favor?
- 12 (Ayes.)
- 13 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: It's approved.
- 14 All right. The next item is Item Number 9, which
- 15 is discussion and action by the Board on the temporary
- 16 suspension of CHRB Rule 1606, Coupling of Horses, for the
- 17 Hollywood Park and Bay Meadows, the current meetings that
- 18 are taking place.
- 19 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Roy Minami,
- 20 Horse Racing Board staff.
- 21 Back in, I think it was May 15th, the Board
- 22 entertained a proposal to waive the coupling Rule 1606, and
- 23 a number of other associated rules, to allow the uncoupling
- 24 of horses only for the Hollywood Park and Bay Meadows meet.
- 25 This was to be done on a, on an experimental basis. The

1 Board at that time, during that teleconference, approved the

- 2 -- approved the suspension of the Rule 1606 to allow
- 3 Hollywood Park and Bay Meadows to uncouple entries for, for
- 4 their race meet only.
- 5 The item was put on the agenda for today to, the
- 6 consideration of the Racing Secretaries, there is supposed
- 7 to be a discussion with the Racing Secretaries, to discuss
- 8 this matter. And this item is on the agenda, if the Board
- 9 wishes to change or add any conditions or restrictions to
- 10 their previous approval. There was a meeting today, this
- 11 afternoon, and I think Mr. Shapiro can encapsulate that.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you. There was a
- 13 meeting today among some of the Racing Secretaries and the
- 14 Hollywood Park and Bay Meadows people, and other people
- 15 within the industry. And the, the discussion revolved
- 16 around rules related, or, or what rules, if there should be
- 17 any related to this. And I think it was the determination
- 18 that the, the temporary suspension of this rule would
- 19 continue; that the rules that are used by the applicable
- 20 associations are non-precedent setting and would not have
- 21 any bearing on any other racing associations if the, if the
- 22 suspension is continued or the rule is terminated, and
- 23 therefore, I don't believe that we need to take any further
- 24 action on this.
- 25 Having said that, we did receive a request that

1 Los Alamitos would like to participate in this uncoupling

- 2 experiment, as well. Unfortunately, the way that the
- 3 suspension, the, the motion to suspend this was
- 4 characterized, it is not possible to include them at this
- 5 time. Therefore, this matter will be re-agenda'd at our
- 6 next Racing Board meeting with respect to allowing Los
- 7 Alamitos Race Course to participate in the experiment, as
- 8 well.
- 9 Is there any comments?
- 10 MR. HALPERN: Ed Halpern, California Thoroughbred
- 11 Trainers.
- 12 I, I would just like to say for the record that
- 13 our Board discussed this, this matter, and took a vote on
- 14 it. And our, our Board actually does not favor the
- 15 uncoupling of entries. To, to paraphrase a little bit,
- 16 there's a, a radio commentary in Los Angeles that, that
- 17 commonly talks about the fact that having character is most
- 18 important when it's most difficult to have character. And
- 19 our Board's position is the same way on this issue, that
- 20 having integrity is most important when it's most difficult
- 21 to show integrity. And leaving the impression with the
- 22 public that something is going on is not a good idea for
- 23 this industry and does not serve any of us very well.
- Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.

1 MR. COUTO: Drew Couto, Thoroughbred Owners of

- 2 California.
- 3 The TOC Board recently responded to an inquiry
- 4 from me, and the majority of the Board members felt that
- 5 there should be no change in the, in the uncoupling, for
- 6 basically the same reasons, I think, that Ed has just
- 7 articulated. Integrity is usually compromised for economic
- 8 reasons. It's, it's tough to protect, and, and it's
- 9 something that needs to be protected at all costs. And my
- 10 Board, at least those who responded, felt that we were
- 11 compromising for the wrong reasons and that we should
- 12 protect and, and keep these horses coupled.
- So, thank you.
- 14 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Would the TOC or CDT have
- 15 any thoughts on, or question, comments on the concern on
- 16 trainer uncoupled entries, do your organizations feel that
- 17 we should change that rule back to where you could not have
- 18 trainer coupled entries?
- 19 MR. HALPERN: It's, it's an issue we, we did not
- 20 discuss because it was not germane to what's being spoken
- 21 today. But certainly from my point of view, it would be
- 22 very inconsistent to have one rule for owner entries and a
- 23 different rule for -- it is inconsistent to have one rule
- 24 for owner entries and one rule for trainer entries. In both
- 25 circumstances, I think there is a perception by the public

- 1 that something funny is going on.
- 2 MR. CHILLINGWORTH: Sherwood Chillingworth, Oak
- 3 Tree Racing.
- 4 I think that if you're going to not allow owners
- 5 to, to uncouple, it's far more significant to require that
- 6 the trainers be coupled, as well. They have more control
- 7 over what happens on the racetrack than the owners do, and
- 8 it makes no sense to me to do a -- force the owners to be
- 9 coupled and not the trainers.
- 10 MR. GOODRICH: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Cliff
- 11 Goodrich, and I'm just representing the general public. At
- 12 the risk of extreme embarrassment, because there was an idea
- 13 I had that, well, a mutuel manager talked me out of it five
- 14 years ago, but maybe somebody in the audience would know, or
- 15 maybe it could be looked into, and that is the possibility
- of the best of all worlds, where, for example, if the three
- 17 and the nine were to run uncoupled because the, the
- 18 racetrack or the Board allows it to be uncoupled, what if
- 19 you could create an additional betting interest, call it the
- 20 12A and B, if there were 11 horses in the race, where a
- 21 member of the wagering public could bet on the three, bet on
- 22 the nine, or bet on the 12 and 12A. In other words, you get
- 23 the best of all worlds.
- The individual who talked me out of it said in
- 25 certain situations, you couldn't place the order of finish,

- 1 and, and that may well be true. But if it isn't true, it
- 2 would be something to look into because I think that way you
- 3 could deal with anybody who'd have an objection to
- 4 compromising integrity, because you can either, if you like
- 5 the long shot, not the favorite, bet it separate. If you
- 6 want to bet the entry, bet the entry. And it may be
- 7 something to look into, or I may look like an idiot for
- 8 having said it, but at least I put it on the table.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Goodrich, you're not
- 10 looking like an idiot, and if you turn around and see Mr.
- 11 Couto, he's strutting like a peacock back there.
- 12 (Parties speaking simultaneously.)
- 13 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: He spoke to us previously.
- 14 So it's -- thank you.
- 15 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Mr. Chairman, just a reminder.
- 16 At the last meeting I mentioned to you a race at Santa Anita
- 17 where Wesley Ward trained two horses in the race, owned one
- 18 of the horses, and his assistant trainer owned the other
- 19 horse. Interestingly enough, one horse ran first, the other
- 20 horse ran last. It seems what you're doing is, is totally
- 21 contrary to the perception that you want to give the betting
- 22 public but, then again, I, I question this whole issue.
- Thanks.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- COMMISSIONER MOSS: I'd like to just make one

1 statement here, because we came out with this issue because

- 2 we had meetings through the Pari-Mutuel Committee, with the
- 3 betting public. It's the betting public that wanted not to
- 4 be stuck with a horse they didn't bet on, and therefore we
- 5 came up with the uncoupling issue.
- 6 I agree with what Chilli said. I think if we're
- 7 going to uncouple, we should uncouple trainers as well as
- 8 owners. I think this is a trial run. We, the Bay Meadows
- 9 and Hollywood Park have agreed to try this. My feeling is
- 10 we should see what the trial says and go from there.
- 11 That's, that's just the way I feel about it.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'd agree. I think we need
- 13 to let the trial run and see -- I mean, there's pluses and
- 14 minuses to it, it's not a real simple thing. But we, we do
- 15 have inequities if part of an interest scratches in the post
- 16 parade, and, and also we, racing desperately needs, needs
- 17 more betting interest. And by uncoupling entries you, you
- 18 get more betting interest. And it's not an easy decision,
- 19 but I think we just want to take everyone's input and at the
- 20 end of the trial we'll make a decision.
- MR. CHARLES: Ron Charles, MEC.
- 22 I agree, Commissioner Harris. I think the time
- 23 has come for an experiment. It's, I think we're talking
- 24 about a month or two. I think we'll have a good idea as to
- 25 how it's perceived. And we've been doing it, we did it all

- 1 year long at Santa Anita in the stakes races. We didn't
- 2 have any problems, and we, we just feel it's worth giving it
- 3 a try.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. I would simply like
- 5 to go on the record that personally, I'm concerned that we
- 6 would do this, because I don't think we would do this if we
- 7 had full fields. But, and I don't want to do anything that
- 8 would jeopardize the integrity. On the other hand, I
- 9 recognize that there's a genuine attempt here to improve the
- 10 business and offer more wagering opportunities, and the
- 11 Pari-Mutuel Committee has come up with this, and so I think
- 12 it's worthy of a try.
- 13 I also know that I've spoken with Mr. Liebau and
- 14 he has assured us that he will have staff, his staff track
- 15 exactly how many times this is done and what the outcomes of
- 16 each of the instances are, in terms of where the horses
- 17 finished and what the odds were. And so hopefully, we'll
- 18 create some form of a database that we can utilize to
- 19 evaluate this.
- 20 If there's no other discussion, then I'll
- 21 entertain a motion.
- 22 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I don't think we need a
- 23 motion.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Oh, we don't have a --
- 25 that's right. So then we don't have to do it. We'll go

- 1 forward. Thank you.
- 2 Item Number 10. The discussion and action by the
- 3 Board on the report of the mold problem at Surfside Race
- 4 Place.
- 5 I would like to simply ask that it's been brought
- 6 to our attention that there has been a problem at Surfside
- 7 with respect to there was some mold that was discovered
- 8 within that facility. And I would ask that Mr. Castro, if
- 9 you could report on the status of that, and also if there's
- 10 anybody here from Surfside.
- 11 My concern here is -- if Mr. Knapp is here --
- 12 MR. CASTRO: I was just going to -- Richard
- 13 Castro, representing Pari-Mutuel.
- I was just going to introduce Mr. Knapp. He's
- 15 from Surfside.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Then it's Mr. Knapp.
- 17 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'm not clear if on this,
- 18 though, I mean, obviously I don't like mold, but aren't
- 19 there other agencies that overlook this area? I mean, are
- we in charge of, of mold?
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, it's, it's, we're not
- 22 in charge of mold, but it's within a facility that is within
- 23 our jurisdiction, and frankly, I've been besieged with an
- 24 awful lot of documents and reports that aren't very
- 25 interesting, and I'd like to just make sure it gets

- 1 resolved. So if Mr. Castro or Mr. Knapp will tell me
- 2 they're happy, let's move on. But it's my understanding,
- 3 I'm not sure, I know we've had some of our investigators
- 4 have gone down and worked on it to make sure that it's being
- 5 resolved. The last I heard was that there was a report that
- 6 said that the area is clear and clean of any mold.
- 7 So if the parties will simply tell me that, I can
- 8 take this huge sack of stuff off my desk and won't have to
- 9 deal with it.
- 10 MR. CASTRO: Again, I would prefer you address
- 11 this to Mr. Knapp.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Knapp. Is he in the
- 13 room? There he is.
- 14 MR. CASTRO: Oh, he's here. He's not getting
- 15 away.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 17 MR. KNAPP: Mike Knapp, Surfside Race Place
- 18 Manager.
- 19 There was some mold found in some areas, remote
- 20 areas of the building, as a result of some water intrusion
- 21 from some winter rains. Those have all been remediated.
- 22 The building has been cleared by industrial hygienists, a
- 23 couple of different industrial hygienists that have been out
- 24 in that area. There were some additional areas that showed
- 25 some areas of, kind of higher mold counts and some non-

1 viable mold, in other words, mold that was, may have been

- 2 produced from previous water intrusions. Those are all in
- 3 some outdoor areas, so there's basically the indoor areas
- 4 have all been remediated and the issue has been solved on
- 5 our, from our perspective.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: So is the facility now
- 7 deemed completely safe and, and all the workers can go back
- 8 to work and all the patrons are fine, and you've had a sign-
- 9 off from whatever applicable agencies would oversee that?
- 10 MR. KNAPP: Well, I, I'm not, I wouldn't state
- 11 that that was ever the issue. There was some, like I said,
- 12 elevated levels of mold found in some areas that weren't
- 13 available to the public.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Have those areas all been
- 15 remediated?
- MR. KNAPP: Yes, they have.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Thank you.
- 18 Is there anyone else who has concern on this
- 19 matter, then?
- 20 MR. KEMPT: Mr. Shapiro, my name is Doug Kempt. I
- 21 also represent the Local 280 Pari-Mutuels Guild.
- I've been in on this process since I first learned
- 23 about it back in February of 2005. As, as I speak here
- 24 today, I don't have any knowledge or any type of report that
- 25 states that this building is clear and safe for all

1 employees to go back to work. There are some employees that

- 2 are still on doctor's orders to stay out of the building.
- 3 And until, until those employees are cleared by their
- 4 doctors and they agree that, the doctors agree that this is
- 5 a safe workplace for them, that will, I think that we can
- 6 move on from there.
- 7 The issue in this particular building is during
- 8 the rainy season it leaks. There are areas of concern that,
- 9 that Mr. Knapp has been very forthright about attacking, and
- 10 they've done a great job down there working to try to
- 11 mediate these, these areas. But as far as closing the
- 12 issue, I, I believe that we still need to follow, follow up.
- 13 We need to make sure that the building is tested again
- 14 during the rainy season, and we still have some work to do
- 15 down there.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Kempt, Mr. Kempt, it's
- 17 my understanding from what I've been told by Mr. Knapp, is
- 18 that they have gone in, they have tested the building. They
- 19 say that it is safe. And you're saying you haven't seen
- 20 those reports. Is that correct?
- 21 MR. KEMPT: That's correct. I have not seen those
- 22 reports.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Have you requested them?
- 24 MR. KEMPT: Yes. Yes. I, I have not seen them.
- 25 Apparently they were made available today. I haven't seen

- 1 them.
- 2 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: The agency that should look
- 3 at this, though, is Cal-OSHA. Why didn't you bring them
- 4 into it? No, I understand it's a worker safety issue, I
- 5 guess, in your mind.
- 6 MR. KEMPT: Right. Exactly.
- 7 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Has, has OSHA been brought
- 8 into --
- 9 MR. KEMPT: Yes, sir.
- 10 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: So they would be the ones
- 11 who would come in and, and ascertain if a dangerous
- 12 workplace does exist.
- 13 MR. KEMPT: I believe Mr. Castro has some more
- 14 comments about the OSHA involvement.
- 15 MR. CASTRO: No, not OSHA. Is this on?
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: We, we can hear you without
- 17 it.
- MR. CASTRO: Yeah. Well, I want to scream.
- 19 Harris always gets my blood boiling.
- 20 Under your own horse racing law, 19420, you have
- 21 the jurisdiction and supervision over meetings. You have,
- 22 under 19440, adopting rules and regulations for the
- 23 protection of the public and the control pari-mutuel
- 24 wagering; safety, 19481, in performing its responsibilities
- 25 the Board shall do the following, establish safety

1 standards, and then you go down -- I'm skipping some of it

- 2 -- to the last line, continuing in other track facilities in
- 3 order to improve the safety of horses, riders, and workers
- 4 at the racetrack. I feel you clearly have the
- 5 responsibility to protect the public and workers. Yes,
- 6 there are other agencies, but you clearly have the
- 7 responsibility.
- 8 What I really want to underline, though, is that
- 9 this process has taken a long time. This was brought to my
- 10 attention in December of 2004. Actually, it was brought to
- 11 my office. I didn't find out about it until March of 2005.
- 12 And, and one person here that's in this room that should
- 13 really be given a, a round of applause for, for the effort
- 14 that he has made to try to make this right and has been up
- 15 front with us, is Mike Knapp. He has been, I believe,
- 16 completely honest. I do take exception to one thing he said
- 17 today, and I have been consistent throughout.
- The building, as far as I'm concerned, is safe
- 19 when a doctor says all the employees can go back to work.
- 20 And there is one who cannot go back to work. So as far as
- 21 I'm concerned, if the building's not safe for him, it's
- 22 probably not safe for others.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: But is that because that
- 24 particular -- you, you're talking about one individual,
- 25 correct? One individual cannot go back to work.

1 MR. CASTRO: There could be a hundred in his

- 2 situation.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: But, but Mr. Castro, what I
- 4 understand is that one doctor has said that one individual
- 5 can't go back to work. Isn't that true?
- 6 MR. CASTRO: It's one employer doctor.
- 7 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Can he not go back to work
- 8 any place, or just not back to work at --
- 9 MR. CASTRO: He can't go back to work in that
- 10 facility.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: But is that, is there
- 12 perhaps some other health issue that's, that's stopping that
- 13 particular person from going to that facility? I mean, if,
- 14 if Mr. Knapp has a report that says that there is no more
- 15 harmful mold within the enclosure, then what else should
- 16 they be responsible to do? They, they have a report, as I
- 17 understand it. Is that, Mr. Knapp, could you step forward
- 18 to the mic. Do you have a report that says that the, the
- 19 black mold has been remediated and there's now no longer a
- 20 problem?
- 21 MR. KNAPP: Well, the mold studies that were
- 22 conducted in, in approximately 30 areas around the facility,
- 23 as I indicTed initially, reflected that there were a couple
- 24 of isolated areas that had high levels of mold content, most
- 25 non-viable, or dead mold, from previous water intrusions.

1 And there was one that was found into an area in between an

- 2 exterior wall and an interior wall. We've gone in and,
- 3 mitigated the, the mold issue in through there, and we are
- 4 currently in reconstruction process of that wall.
- 5 There were, after testings done in that area and
- 6 revealed that all the 20 or 30 odd areas that have been
- 7 tested within the facility are all at normal levels for mold
- 8 in, in the interior of the building.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. And have you
- 10 spoken to the doctor as to why he's taking the position that
- 11 this particular worker can't come back to work?
- 12 MR. KNAPP: That's really an issue that I have not
- 13 been involved with from the beginning. I --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: And I'm not trying to
- 15 violate any Hippo laws, but I'm just trying to --
- MR. VARELA: Hi, I'm Tom Varela, with Southern
- 17 California Off-Track Wagering. And our worker comp carrier
- 18 is working with the doctor. I can't speak for what the
- 19 doctor has found or why they won't release him or what
- 20 concerns they still have. We forwarded all the reports over
- 21 to the doctor and it's in their hands, or it was --
- 22 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Then, again, I don't think
- 23 we're going to solve it here. But what I hear is that
- 24 everybody's working towards a resolution that is acceptable
- 25 to everybody here. If Mr. Castro, you and, and your

1 employees recognize that the people down at Surfside are

- 2 working diligently, and I know you're working diligently,
- 3 perhaps you could get together with them and talk to the
- 4 workmen's comp carrier, or whoever it is, and, and just
- 5 bring this to a resolution.
- I mean, we, we clearly want to see that the
- 7 facility is safe. We clearly want to see that it's, it's,
- 8 you know, everybody can work there, but I don't think it
- 9 should be just based on one particular individual who may
- 10 have other health concerns that are affecting him that
- 11 aren't related to the property, perhaps. Is that fair?
- MR. CASTRO: No.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No. Okay. What is fair?
- 14 MR. CASTRO: What is fair is that you're correct,
- 15 everybody is trying to get this resolved. Everybody has
- 16 been working together to try to get it resolved. It's been
- 17 a very slow, long drawn-out, as far as I'm concerned,
- 18 unacceptable process. But more important than that, what I
- 19 want to leave you with is that yes, everybody has been
- 20 trying to work to resolve this.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: What can the California
- 22 Horse Racing Board do? What, what do you look to us to do?
- 23 We, we are trying to fulfill our obligations under racing
- 24 law and rules.
- MR. CASTRO: I, I know --

1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: What is it you're looking

- 2 for us to do?
- 3 MR. CASTRO: Well, I, I don't know how this
- 4 started a couple of months ago, but I can clearly tell you
- 5 this, that in letters that I have written to the Board, I
- 6 have said that I do not want this facility shut down. I've
- 7 been very adamant about that. I don't want it shut down. I
- 8 don't want anybody fined. But it would've been nice if
- 9 maybe someone from your staff contacted maybe some of these
- 10 other agencies and helped move this process along a little
- 11 bit faster.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think we're concerned
- 13 about it, but, but we're not the primary agency is the
- 14 problem. There's some of these other agencies are the ones
- 15 that really need to act.
- 16 COMMISSIONER ANDREINI: If you're looking for a
- 17 doctor that's going to sign off on a, on a purported injured
- 18 worker, you're, you're never going to get that done. You're
- 19 never going to get it.
- 20 MR. CASTRO: This is a company doctor. This isn't
- 21 the union's doctor or his private doctor. This person filed
- 22 a workman's comp case. He went to --
- 23 COMMISSIONER ANDREINI: His liability is the same.
- 24 His liability is the same.
- 25 MR. CASTRO: Well, then let me change this a

1 little bit, and I'll make it personal. You know who Dr.

- 2 Seftell is. He has come to these meetings.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: We, we know who he is.
- 4 MR. CASTRO: Well respected individual. This is
- 5 what happened to me. For the last six months I've had a
- 6 cough, a bad cough. Can't sleep nights. Spit up mucous.
- 7 COMMISSIONER ANDREINI: Well --
- 8 (Parties speaking simultaneously.)
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Hold on, hold on.
- 10 Mr. Castro, can we just keep it to -- I hope you're feeling
- 11 better. But let's just go on.
- 12 MR. CASTRO: I'm feeling better because on
- 13 Preakness day, when I was having trouble breathing, I went
- 14 and saw Dr. Seftell. First thing he told me was Richard,
- 15 your lungs are full. Put me on a breathalyzer. Asked me if
- 16 I had been around any mold. I've been in that damn building
- 17 for six months off and on. I'm not going to sue anybody.
- 18 I'm not going to even -- this is the last year we're going
- 19 to hear about this. But I'm convinced that I caught
- 20 something in that building walking around in there. And
- 21 believe me, I'm not suing anybody, I'm not going to go see a
- 22 lawyer, I don't want anything. I'm just pointing out I
- 23 believe probably some of my condition was the result of the
- 24 building.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. I do hope you

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1 feel better.
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- 2 MR. CASTRO: Now, let's go for another one.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No, no, no.
- 4 MR. CASTRO: We have --
- 5 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No, no. We got it. Okay,
- 6 we got it. What, what I suggest is perhaps you can send a
- 7 letter or -- to, to our staff of what we can do to
- 8 facilitate this. This was on the agenda so that we could
- 9 hopefully bring this to a resolution. I hear the people at
- 10 Surfside want to resolve it. I hear you want to resolve it.
- 11 And, and I, I don't know what else we as an agency can do.
- 12 I know that we've had people down there multiple times to
- 13 meet and inspect the facilities. If there's something else
- 14 that, that you need us to do, then please let us know what
- 15 it is, but we're not going to solve it here today,
- 16 obviously.
- 17 MR. CASTRO: Well, I think Mike Knapp may share
- 18 with you that part of the problem is the design of the
- 19 building, and in listening to the independent testing people
- 20 they recommended having testing every two to three months.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, if there needs to
- 22 be --
- MR. CASTRO: That's, that's --
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- a testing --
- 25 MR. CASTRO: -- that is a long-term problem.

1 That's not going to get corrected today. That's not going

- 2 to get corrected six months, or whatever.
- 3 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I think this is the Cal-OSHA
- 4 problem. I think what we could do is, is direct our staff
- 5 to send a letter to Cal-OSHA at San Diego and express that
- 6 we've got serious concerns about the health conditions
- 7 there, and we'd like their, their feedback.
- 8 MR. CASTRO: Well, there is a Cal-OSHA claim
- 9 already filed, but Cal-OSHA primarily looks for running
- 10 water. They're not so much into the black mold part of it.
- 11 I know that's hard to believe, but you can bet I've spent a
- 12 lot of time down there in that San Diego office. It's water
- 13 that they're after.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay.
- 15 MR. CASTRO: And there is an open claim against
- 16 them.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Well, I would just
- 18 direct staff to please follow up on this, and, and also
- 19 perhaps we can have a, a meeting of all the parties to try
- 20 and facilitate this. And maybe we can get somebody from
- 21 Cal-OSHA to come to the meeting. But, you know, we, we are
- 22 sympathetic to your concerns, and we'd like to get it done.
- MR. CASTRO: All right. Two for two. ADW, I get
- 24 sympathy, on this issue I get sympathy. You're consistent.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Three. I hope you, you're

- 1 feeling well.
- 2 MR. CASTRO: Yeah, you have sympathy for my
- 3 health. I understand that.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: If I'm betting at home on
- 5 ADW, can I ask the Board to intervene if, if my room is kind
- 6 of stuffy?
- 7 MR. CASTRO: What, what did you want to do with
- 8 ADW?
- 9 (Laughter.)
- 10 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: I'm at home, betting in my
- 11 office, and it may be, for instance, it might be moldy in
- 12 there. Can the Board come in and fix that?
- 13 MR. CASTRO: I don't know about that, but I, I
- 14 know this, and you can put this down on the record, that on
- 15 6/13, the position of Local 280 is that we no longer have
- 16 ADW, so you won't have to be bothered with that anymore.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right.
- 18 MR. CASTRO: Remember, we don't have telephone
- 19 operators.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: All right. We're going to
- 21 move on. Thank you, Mr. Castro.
- The next item is the staff report on the, on, on
- 23 the Los Angeles Turf Club meeting that was recently
- 24 concluded.
- 25 SENIOR PARIMUTUEL EXAMINER REAGAN: Commissioners,

- 1 John Reagan, CHRB staff.
- In the package you have the standard end of meet
- 3 report with the numbers and the adjustments in the handle.
- 4 Obviously, an interesting meet, that the on-track attendance
- 5 was very, was up, and very positive.
- 6 In addition, you also have included in this
- 7 package a report from the investigative staff, and I am told
- 8 we have a special treat today in that L.A. Turf Club at
- 9 Santa Anita has a special presentation for us to observe.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, thank you. Then we'll
- 11 let them do their presentation before we ask any questions.
- 12 MR. GOTTERMAN: Good morning, everyone. I'm Alan
- 13 Gotterman from the Los Angeles Turf Club, and I'd like to
- 14 thank you for the opportunity to follow the mold report.
- 15 It's a great pleasure to be here today, and to
- 16 report on what was a solid meet that was good for Santa
- 17 Anita, certainly, but also a boost for racing in California
- 18 and for the sport of racing throughout the United States.
- 19 First of all, I want to say we're very grateful to
- 20 the gods of weather. The weather was good most of the time
- 21 in January and February, and that's more than half the
- 22 battle. With decent weather you can plot out a plan, and
- 23 our plan was basically clear-cut. We needed to get people
- 24 back to the track after one of the worst seasons ever one
- 25 year earlier. There were racing fans and gamblers we knew

1 we could get back. We just needed to get their attention

- 2 and give them compelling reasons to return, so we embarked
- 3 on a major marketing and advertising campaign with a
- 4 significantly greater budget than has been seen in this
- 5 marketplace in many, many years, seeking first to find the
- 6 low-hanging fruit we had lost, and second, to entice the
- 7 lapsed and casual players to visit us again.
- 8 We engaged media pros Chuck Wenner and David
- 9 Beanstock, who are also horse owners and horse players, to
- 10 help put together a plan. We treated this meet as if we
- 11 were a retail establishment with new offers and a new
- 12 message every week, sometimes two messages a week. Our ads
- 13 weren't funny or particularly clever. We weren't trying to
- 14 win awards, nor were we aiming for high drama. We just
- 15 wanted fans to know that if you come to Santa Anita this
- 16 weekend you would have a good time, probably take home a
- 17 nice souvenir, and you might win some money, too.
- 18 We commissioned new extensive research during the
- 19 2005 Oak Tree Meet to, to learn more about our customers in
- 20 order to use that research for 2006 Santa Anita.
- 21 Overwhelmingly, the research showed that other than our
- 22 biggest days, customers were mostly coming from a 12 to 15
- 23 mile radius surrounding Santa Anita. So our media dollars
- 24 were spent accordingly to reach more people from the
- 25 neighborhood, so to speak. Our awareness level in the area

1 surrounding Santa Anita went through the roof, and on our

- 2 biggest days we had all of Los Angeles County on broadcast
- 3 and cable.
- 4 All winter long and into the spring, Santa Anita
- 5 was a very visible media player in the L.A. marketplace.
- 6 The winter team did an excellent job of stretching our media
- 7 dollars, mostly on TV, and instead of being on the air with
- 8 three buys for a few days leading up to our biggest races,
- 9 we were on the air in selected high profile areas every week
- 10 for 18 weeks. And not just on the air. Our spots played
- 11 regularly on high profile programming such as Jay Leno,
- 12 David Letterman, Saturday Night Live, Lakers playoffs,
- 13 Dodgers games, the Today Show and Good Morning America, as
- 14 well as the nightly newscasts.
- 15 Once we had the research in place, we plotted out
- 16 a promotional campaign utilizing attractive premium items,
- 17 compelling direct mail offers, e-mail blasts, micro-brews
- 18 combined with live entertainment, a rewards program based on
- 19 increased attendance, and an aggressive free pass program
- 20 good on some of our most important days, because the
- 21 research also indicated that many of our customers believed
- 22 they were paying too much before their day even started and
- 23 they would come more often if the entire track experience
- 24 wasn't as expensive.
- 25 Our plan involved using one big day to promote the

1 next big day, and it was vital to our marketing strategy

- 2 that we blast a home-run out of the ballpark on opening day
- 3 so that our other efforts would fall in place later. With
- 4 an eight day media build-up reminding television viewers and
- 5 newspaper readers that the day after Christmas belonged to
- 6 Santa Anita, and a handful of passes good for later in the
- 7 meet, this opening day got us off on the right foot. A
- 8 crowd of 34,000 showed, and they wagered \$5.8 million. The
- 9 opening day crowd was the largest since 1999, and the handle
- 10 was the highest for an opening day in the seven-year history
- 11 of Santa Anita.
- 12 You know, during the winter/spring meet you don't
- 13 get much in the way of major holidays to work with, or the
- 14 Kentucky Derby or Triple Crown simulcasts. There are
- 15 basically three high profile showcase dates during the LATC
- 16 meet, opening day, big cap day, and Santa Anita Derby Day.
- 17 We were determined to turn sunshine millions into another
- 18 main event, and turn our big three into a big four.
- 19 With some help from our promotional efforts on
- 20 opening day, Santa Anita went a long way to establishing
- 21 sunshine millions as a major event on the Southern
- 22 California circuit, with a crowd of 32,000, an 81 percent
- 23 increase from 2005, and a record for the event. On track
- 24 handle jumped 15 percent to four and a half million dollars.
- Next, with help from sunshine millions, big cap

- 1 day shattered records with its highest recorded attendance
- 2 in 16 years, 49,000, a 37 percent increase from the previous
- 3 year. The handle increased too, to over 6.6 million on
- 4 track, and over \$24 million nationally.
- 5 With a push from big cap day, Santa Anita Derby
- 6 Day recorded attendance was over 50,000, the highest in 22
- 7 years, and the handle rose to over the \$6 million mark on
- 8 track. An aggressive group sales effort led by New Group
- 9 Events Director Chris Quinn produced the largest amount of
- 10 groups and individuals in groups in five years. In all, six
- 11 days produced crowds of over 20,000 fans. Mike Carlo and
- 12 Rick Hammerly in the race office did a superb job putting
- 13 together solid fields all season long. The field size
- 14 averaged 8.6 starters. We're talking quality and quantity.
- 15 The improved business led to two significant purse
- 16 increases.
- 17 So for this year, racing was alive and healthy at
- 18 Santa Anita. Our industry's needs in California will remain
- 19 very -- still remain very much intact, but this past season
- 20 was a positive boost for all of us, and Santa Anita on many,
- 21 many days was a joyous place to be.
- 22 We're there for other reasons -- were there other
- 23 reasons that we did better this past year? Absolutely.
- 24 Give credit to the efforts of Mike Willman, who's sitting
- 25 right next to me, the seasoned broadcast veteran who Ron

- 1 Charles hired to be the new publicity director at Santa
- 2 Anita. Mike is not your conventional PR guy. Mike is a
- 3 throw-back to another time when the PR guy would be a bit of
- 4 a bulldog until he got what he wanted. We watched Mike this
- 5 year call, visit, cajole, hound, and get a remarkable amount
- 6 of attention for Santa Anita, and thoroughbred racing
- 7 imprinted on television.
- 8 Mike.
- 9 MR. WILLMAN: Thank you very much, Alan. Mike
- 10 Willman, Director of Publicity at Santa Anita. It's an
- 11 honor to address the CHRB. It's my first time here.
- 12 Alan touched upon I think the most important
- 13 things, and if you've heard me on the radio after the last
- 14 15 years occasionally rant and rave, in my opinion there is
- 15 no single thing anymore important to the viability and long-
- 16 term success of our business than on-track attendance. It
- 17 creates a buzz. I think we see that every year at Del Mar.
- 18 They put up those huge numbers opening day, and it just gets
- 19 the ball rolling. You've got to establish momentum. We, we
- 20 were blessed that the, the, you know, the clouds kind of
- 21 broke at about noon on opening day and we got about 35,00
- 22 people in there. I think we'd've done a lot better had we
- 23 not had the threatening skies.
- We had a ton of media attention that morning, and
- 25 it was due to a lot of hard work. I want to say this. In

- 1 support of my contention on the on-track attendance thing,
- 2 we have an awful lot of friends in the media here in metro
- 3 L.A. and Orange County, which, as you know, we have about 16
- 4 million people here. It happens to be the number two media
- 5 market in the country. We have a lot of friends in media in
- 6 positions of power, also talent, and just beat reporters.
- 7 The one thing I heard from Day One when I started getting
- 8 after people at Del Mar, when Ron had, had given me the job,
- 9 was, you know, we really don't see that many people
- 10 attending out there anymore.
- 11 If, if you want to be a major league sport, you've
- 12 got to act like one. And one of the things in conjunction
- 13 with that is you better start getting some people there to
- 14 the venue. I think we're all in agreement, during the week
- 15 that's a very tough proposition, but on the weekends Santa
- 16 Anita is just, for me, it's a dream come true to be working
- 17 there. We, we've got the facility. We were able to really
- 18 do some good things.
- 19 This is no time, no place, no market for small
- 20 ball, and thanks to Ron Charles and the philosophy that he's
- 21 imbued, we, we do not intend to play it. It takes a lot of
- 22 investment, a lot of hard work, and when those editors, when
- 23 those producers start seeing the numbers on track, it makes,
- 24 it makes it easy for them to follow what they really want to
- 25 do, and that is cover us, because they have the cover from

- 1 their superiors by virtue of our on-track numbers.
- 2 And I want to say KCBS Channel 2 was a terrific
- 3 adjunct to our meet, and, and to what television coverage we
- 4 had. We cut a deal with them whereby they were cutting us
- 5 in for about five to six minutes on Saturdays, not every
- 6 Saturday through the meet, but it turned out to be a very
- 7 good thing, gave us an awful lot of over the air exposure
- 8 which, as you know, is so, so tough to come by. And if you
- 9 have to buy it, it's really tough.
- 10 We didn't have to buy it, they were happy to have
- 11 us, and we helped their ratings. Which, for the people
- 12 involved in making the decisions, that, that just, it really
- 13 makes it easy for everybody.
- So, anyway, thank you for having us here, and
- 15 we're open to build upon what we started here at this
- 16 winter/spring meet.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, Alan and Mike, and to
- 18 all the Santa Anita people, I'm sure everyone can speak for
- 19 themselves, but I think it was a phenomenal job you did.
- 20 Every time I was out there I maybe got a hello, but you were
- 21 going by so fast with some group, Mike, it was unbelievable.
- 22 And Alan, I agree, and I know how hard everybody worked.
- 23 And I can just tell you that the biggest fan you have is my
- 24 five-year old, who thanks you for the jockey day and all the
- 25 other stuff. But I just think you guys did such a great job

- 1 for California racing, and for all of racing, that it's
- 2 wonderful for us to get a report with these kind of numbers.
- 3 And I just congratulate you and thank you. It was just
- 4 terrific.
- 5 MR. WILLMAN: I just want to say one other thing.
- 6 You mentioned jockeys. When the athletes, when the horsemen
- 7 and those guys in the white pants, starting with opening
- 8 day, when they see the kind of media coverage that we're
- 9 able to generate, it gets everybody kind of going in the
- 10 same direction. And they, they were just tremendous in
- 11 availing themselves, and we're seeing it right now through
- 12 the Triple Crown. Unfortunately, we've had the terrible
- 13 mishap this past Saturday.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, just congratulations
- 15 again. I'm sure everybody joins me in, in that, that it was
- just wonderful racing. And to, to be there with 54,000
- 17 people.
- 18 MR. WILLMAN: One last thing, Richard. Through
- 19 courtesy of Benoit and Associates, we have up in our office,
- 20 it's --
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well --
- 22 MR. WILLMAN: -- the attendance on the Big Hat Day
- on the big board, so.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- MR. WILLMAN: Thank you.

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1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you very much.
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- 2 All right. We're going to cruise right through
- 3 this because we're getting to the end, and the court
- 4 reporter gave the thumbs up. So we're --
- 5 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Are we having a tour after
- 6 this?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, we have still things
- 8 on the agenda.
- 9 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Yeah, I, I know. But --
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: After the meeting there will
- 11 be stable tours for those people that wish to go on the
- 12 stable tour. So if you'll just, I guess, let us know, or
- 13 Roy, I know that, that people here were kind enough to --
- 14 ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MINAMI: Yes. After
- 15 the meeting is adjourned there'll be a bus at the end of
- 16 Tunnel 1, which is just outside of the executive offices.
- 17 So anybody who wants to go on the tour should ride the bus,
- 18 because they wouldn't be allowed individually.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Thank you.
- 20 All right. General Business. Is there anything
- 21 that needs to come before the Board under General Business?
- MR. HALPERN: Ed Halpern, California Thoroughbred
- 23 Trainers. I just wanted to take a, a moment to possibly
- 24 embarrass a couple of people on the Board.
- 25 A few months ago Commissioner Bianco came to the

1 California Thoroughbred Trainers and said he thought it was

- 2 important that we try to do something for backstretch
- 3 workers by way of helping them to file tax returns. He made
- 4 a very generous contribution to help get that done, and, and
- 5 due to his generosity and then some additional generosity
- 6 that was necessary from Oak Tree and Chilli stepped up, as
- 7 he always does, when it, when it involves backstretch help,
- 8 we were able to do 151 tax returns for backstretch workers,
- 9 and it was a great start to the program. And many of those
- 10 workers we not only did tax returns for this year, but we
- 11 brought them up to date so that they've caught up with the
- 12 government.
- 13 So that was a great project, and we hope to expand
- 14 on that. And I wanted to thank both of them publicly for,
- 15 for doing that. It was beyond the call of duty.
- 16 Another one I wanted to thank, and hope I, I'm not
- 17 embarrassing, is the -- our scholarship program recently had
- 18 the largest donation we've ever had. Jerry and Ann Moss
- 19 gave us a donation that will serve the children of
- 20 backstretch workers for many, many years. Over the past
- 21 three and a half years, we've given out 180 scholarships,
- 22 and because of their generosity we will be able to give out
- 23 many, many, many, many more over the next few years.
- 24 So thank you both very much. Appreciate it.
- 25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Nice going, and that's very

- 2 nice, and --
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Mr. Chairman --
- 4 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- it's very good.
- 5 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: -- Jerry Jamgotchian. You know,
- 6 I've asked for the last four months for a rule book.
- 7 There's still no rule book. Anybody care about putting out
- 8 a rule book?
- 9 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian, I am going
- 10 to tell you that I know that they are being printed, and
- 11 I --
- 12 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: I've heard that now for two
- months.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No.
- 15 MR. KNAPP: Point of order. We are not --
- 16 (Parties speaking simultaneously.)
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Okay. Mr. Jamgotchian,
- 18 let's not play games.
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN; Well, you --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I know you have one. No,
- 21 no, just let me finish. They are being printed, and I
- 22 believe that they will be done in one or two months, but I
- 23 know that they were, and we're going to check on them today.
- 24 So they are being printed.
- 25 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Secondly, with regards to the,

1 the hiring of Mr. Arthur. I note that he's going to retain

- 2 an office in southern California. Ms. Fermin retains an
- 3 office in southern California, the Del Mar area. Would the
- 4 Board entertain maybe moving the CHRB office to southern
- 5 California, since northern California racing is somewhat
- 6 nondescript? Is that a good idea, maybe?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: You know, first of all, the
- 8 offices, there are a lot of people from Sacramento and we
- 9 have a lot, being a state agency. I don't know that that
- 10 would be practical. And there's a lot of interaction with
- 11 the state, so I don't know if that's possible. And Dr.
- 12 Arthur's office, it's not yet been determined as to where it
- 13 will be.
- 14 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: In the press release it was
- 15 stated that you would retain an office in southern
- 16 California.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: But the exact location is
- 18 not determined.
- 19 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay, because my concern is --
- 20 sorry. Because my concern is that I'm sure there's a lot of
- 21 money being spent traveling back and forth, hotel rooms, by
- 22 CHRB personnel that could be better utilized in the horse
- 23 racing industry. So I think you ought to consider that.
- 24 I've requested, through a public records request, Ms.
- 25 Fermin's expense accounts to see just how much money is

1 being spent. Because it seems to me that's kind of a waste.

- 2 Maybe the office should be in southern California.
- 3 Additionally, about three months ago I requested
- 4 the Board to address the fact that unlicensed people are in
- 5 the backstretch monitoring the stakes horses and taking
- 6 videos, and I'm just wondering if anything's been done with
- 7 regards to that.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I'm sorry, I didn't hear
- 9 your question.
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. I had a horse in this
- 11 Will Rogers --
- 12 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Congratulations. I saw you
- 13 won, and --
- MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: -- I was very pleased for
- 16 you.
- 17 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, the, the person that was
- 18 monitoring my horse was unlicensed. And I, I'm just
- 19 wondering, the rules say that anybody in the back has to be
- 20 licensed, yet I got an unlicensed person monitoring my
- 21 horse. I mean, I, this, it's a violation of the rules. And
- 22 more importantly, you're risking something happening by
- 23 somebody with no background check, and certainly no license.
- 24 Is that something that, that should continue, Mr. Shapiro?
- 25 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian, I think, as

1 you know, I believe that the licensing, the licensing of

- 2 those people that walk those horses, there are some
- 3 arrangements made whereby they are allowed in the stable
- 4 area for that express purpose through the company that
- 5 they're contracted with.
- 6 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: But --
- 7 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: That's my understanding.
- 8 But I, I don't have any personal knowledge of, of the
- 9 individuals or the exact agreements.
- 10 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, during a deposition of --
- 11 Ashe and Brenner, he mentioned the fact that there would be
- 12 no controls on these people, and that they could be felons
- 13 or they could be race fixers, they could be anybody. So I
- 14 think it's important that the Board determine if they want
- 15 unlicensed people to monitor horses.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO; Okay. Thank you. I, I
- 17 think we'll have staff get back to us and tell us.
- 18 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, I, I asked you to do that
- 19 three months ago. I'm hopeful something will happen.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 21 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: With regards to I talked about
- 22 the Hollywood Park issue on the historical monument. So
- you, you're aware of that, I suspect. But I have another
- 24 question with regards to maybe what the Board should be
- 25 doing to determine whether the casino at Hollywood Park has

- 1 a continuous operations clause with regards to the
- 2 racetrack. As a horse owner and someone that's concerned
- 3 about Hollywood Park retaining an operation, if the casino
- 4 had a requirement of a conditional operations clause on the
- 5 racetrack, I think that's something that all of us would
- 6 like to know. And I think the Board should know, because if
- 7 there's a continuous operations clause, obviously I don't
- 8 think Hollywood Park's going to be closing.
- 9 So maybe you could have staff check into that to
- 10 see if there is such a clause.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Mr. Jamgotchian, I don't
- 12 believe that the Hollywood Park casino, which is not
- 13 something that we oversee, has a continuous operating
- 14 provision, or how that would affect the operation of
- 15 Hollywood Park, because really the Board's -- it hasn't
- 16 anything to do with the Board.
- 17 I believe that the property is privately owned,
- 18 and therefore whatever leases they have and whatever terms
- 19 are contained within those leases would be something that
- 20 the racing association would have to deal with. I don't
- 21 think it has anything to do with the Board.
- 22 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, wouldn't you, as the
- 23 Board, have the ability to request Hollywood Park to provide
- 24 you any condition -- continuous operation clause
- 25 requirements they have with regards to the racetrack?

1 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I don't, I don't see what

- 2 the pertinence of that is, and whether or not they have a
- 3 sub -- a tenant or a sub-tenant, or whatever else is on
- 4 their property and whether they're using it for, for a
- 5 purpose unrelated to horse racing, would have any bearing on
- 6 us.
- 7 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Well, I think it's important
- 8 because if there's a continuous operations clause, that
- 9 track might never close.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Well, again, A, we don't
- 11 know if there's a continuous operation clause. B, we don't
- 12 know what the terms of that are. And C, I don't see where
- 13 it has any bearing on this.
- 14 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: So it's not of interest to you,
- 15 then?
- 16 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: No, it's not.
- 17 MR. JAMGOTCHIAN: Okay. All right.
- 18 Finally, the court ordered Ms. Fermin's deposition
- 19 date, and we're looking forward to taking her deposition.
- 20 Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: Thank you.
- 22 All right. The next item on the agenda is old
- 23 business, I believe. Is there anything that needs to come
- 24 before this Board under old business?
- There being none, then -- oh, one thing.

1	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FERMIN: Excuse me. Just
2	before we close the meeting, we've had a request from the
3	court reporter that anybody who has spoken, if they would
4	submit business cards so that the record would be correct
5	and the spelling of the names and whatever organization you
6	represent would be correct in the minutes. If you could
7	comply with that.
8	CHAIRPERSON SHAPIRO: I would, I would like to
9	thank everybody for coming today, and I would like to also
10	remind you that the next Racing Board meeting is on June
11	22nd, and it will be at the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis.
12	It's not going to be at a racetrack, which will be
13	interesting, and we're going to get out and be able to see
14	exactly what the Maddy Lab does. And so we're hoping that
15	it'll be educational and informative for everybody.
16	Otherwise, thank you, and have a good night.
17	COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Yeah. We'll probably have a
18	tour before or after that. It's a very informative thing to
19	look at.
20	(Thereupon, the meeting of the California
21	Horse Racing Board was adjourned at
22	5:55 p.m.)

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## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, TROY A. RAY, an Electronic Reporter, do hereby certify that I am a disinterested person herein; that I recorded the foregoing Meeting of the California Horse Racing Board; that thereafter the recording was transcribed into typewriting.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said meeting, or in any way interested in the outcome of said meeting.

 $\,$  IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of June, 2006.